

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Star Historic District

Star, Montgomery County, MG0070, Listed 9/9/2013

Nomination by Heather Wagner

Photographs by Heather Wagner, June 2012



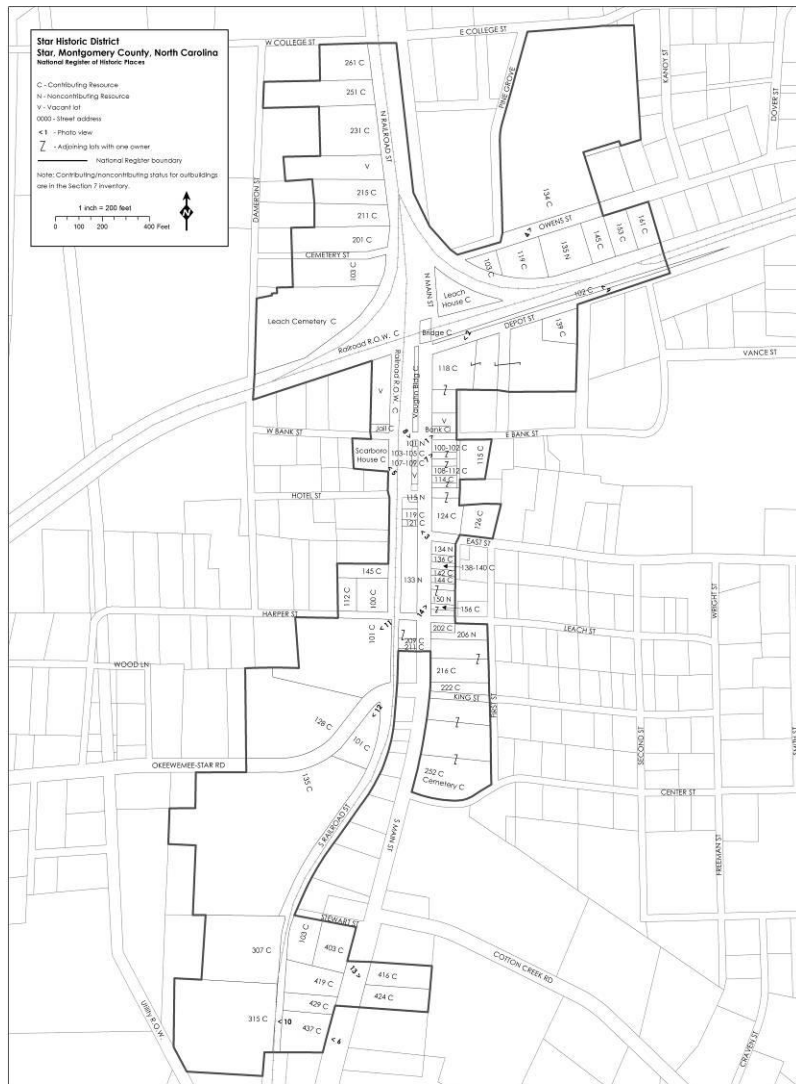
Bank of Star, north Main Street



North Main Street, west side



103 Cemetery Street



Historic District Map

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Star Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

Street & number _____
Centered on Main and Railroad streets and roughly bounded by _____
College Street on the north, First Street on the east, and Dameron
Street on the west. ☐ not for publication N/A

city or town Star ☐ vicinity N/A

State North Carolina code NC county Montgomery code 123 zip code 27356

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register
of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the
property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See Continuation sheet
for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register.

☐ See continuation sheet

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

☐ removed from the National
Register.

☐ other,

(explain:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. Classification**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
85	23	buildings
2	2	sites
3	4	structures
0	0	objects
90	29	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Domestic: secondary structure

Domestic: hotel

Commerce/Trade: professional

Commerce/Trade: financial institution

Commerce/Trade: specialty store

Commerce/Trade: general store

Government: post office

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Domestic: secondary structure

Domestic: hotel

Commerce/Trade: professional

Commerce/Trade: specialty store

Government: post office

Religion: religious facility

Funerary: cemetery

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

Colonial Revival

Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick

walls Wood: weatherboard

Brick

roof Tin

other Concrete

Terra Cotta

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** moved from its original location.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Commerce

Architecture

Transportation

Period of Significance

1896 – 1963

Significant Dates

n/a

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State Agency
- ☐ Federal Agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

Star Historic District
Name of Property

Montgomery County, North Carolina
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approx. 78 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>17</u>	<u>610200</u>	<u>3918495</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>17</u>	<u>610615</u>	<u>3918520</u>

3	<u>17</u>	<u>610645</u>	<u>3918190</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u>17</u>	<u>610515</u>	<u>3918060</u>

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title Heather M. Wagner
organization hmwPreservation date September 1, 2012
Street & number P. O. Box 355 telephone 336.207.1502
city or town Durham state NC zip code 27702

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

Name _____
Street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

Section 6: Function or Use

Historic Functions (cont.):

Religion: religious facility

Funerary: cemetery

Industry: manufacturing facility

Landscape: park

Transportation: road-related

Transportation: rail-related

Current Functions (cont.):

Industry: manufacturing facility

Landscape: park

Transportation: road-related

Transportation: rail-related

Section 7: Description

Architectural Classification (cont.):

Romanesque Revival

Other: Period Cottage

Other: Ranch

Art Deco

Materials (cont.):

Walls: Wood: shingle

Wood: log

Asbestos

Roof: Asphalt

Narrative Description:

Located on the east side of Montgomery County and approximately fifty miles south of Greensboro, Star has approximately 800 residents and is bisected from north to south by United States Highway 220-Alternate.¹ The Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway runs from the east to the west through the town connecting with Norfolk Southern in Gulf, North Carolina and Charlotte, North Carolina. A north-south line of the Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway also bisects Star, running parallel to Main Street on its west, and extending from Aberdeen to lumber yards just north of Star.²

The Star Historic District is comprised of portions of approximately nineteen city blocks that encompass the oldest part of the town, centered on Main Street and the Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway (originally the Durham and Charlotte Railroad). The district includes the core of the downtown commercial district and some residential areas that surround the commercial development, from College and Owens streets on the north to just past Stewart Street on the south and from Dameron Street on the west to First Street on the east. The district retains a sufficient level of architectural integrity and illustrates the continued development of the town in the

¹ Star North Carolina website. www.starnc.gov. Accessed 15 April 2013.

² Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway. www.acwr.com. Accessed 11 December 2012.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

early twentieth century. District boundaries were determined based on the level of architectural integrity. Properties outside of the district were generally constructed after the period of significance or do not retain the architectural integrity of those properties within the district.

The topography of Star is generally flat with clay soil and large pines. The town of Star developed along the railroad line at the turn of the twentieth century with the earliest streets running perpendicular and parallel to the railroad on the north end of the district. A section of the Durham and Charlotte Railroad that extended from Glendon (in northeast Moore County) to Troy (in central Montgomery County) was completed in 1896 and extended through Star from east to west. The same year the Asheboro and Montgomery Railroad was completed from Asheboro south to Star, running parallel to Main Street. The two lines merged to form the Aberdeen and Asheboro Railroad in 1897. The lines changed names and ownership several times in the early years of the twentieth century, but by 1911 were owned and operated by Norfolk Southern Railroad, who retained control of the lines into the 1980s. Both lines currently operate as the Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway, a shortline or regional freight railroad that connects to the Norfolk Southern rail networks.

The central business area, just south of the intersection of the north-south and east-west railroad lines, was platted in a grid with streets extending to the east and west from the north-south running Main Street. As streets extend out from the downtown grid toward neighboring communities, they follow natural ridges or former trading paths. Streets are named for numbers or cardinal directions (East, First, and Second streets), landmarks (Bank, Depot, Cemetery, Hotel, and Railroad streets), or landowners (Harper, Leach, and Owens streets).

Lot shapes and sizes vary throughout the district based on the use of the property and the platting of the town in stages, though most lots are half of a city block deep or extend the full depth of the block if the block is bisected by the railroad line. Commercial properties are narrow, with buildings often abutting each other to form a continuous wall of building façades. Residential lots are irregular in size and shape, often following the curve of the streets as they extend from the downtown core. Some residential streets were developed and then sold by the Durham and Charlotte Railroad and the Norfolk Southern Railroad and some may have been subdivided from earlier large estates, further contributing to the irregularity of the parcels. Commercial buildings generally extend out to the sidewalk, maximizing the use of the site and resulting in a denser development in those areas. Residential properties are generally set back from the street and centered on the lot. Streets are paved but only Main Street has sidewalks and even those do not extend outside of the commercial area. Driveways are common in the residential area leading to sheds, or in some cases garages, at the rear of the properties.

The range of architectural styles found in Star includes Queen Anne-style houses, early twentieth century vernacular houses, Romanesque Revival-style commercial buildings, Colonial Revival-style houses and churches, Craftsman-style houses, Period Cottages, and Ranches. The native pine forests of Montgomery County provided an abundance of lumber, making wood the predominant material in Star's residential architecture. All residential structures in the district have brick foundations and asphalt-shingled roofs unless otherwise noted. Craftsman-style windows, as noted in the inventory list, are those with narrow vertical panes in

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

the upper sash above a single-light lower sash. The central business district includes one- and two-story brick structures sharing common party walls. Brick, manufactured in Star, became popular for commercial buildings in the early twentieth century and was the preferred material for churches in the district.

Inventory List

The inventory list is arranged alphabetically by street name, then ascending numerically by house number along those streets. Building names were derived from the 2006 research completed by local residents Lisa W. Currie and Tom Hicks (Currie/Hicks) and from a meeting of the Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity Program held on January 7, 2013 (Star STEP) which included Angela Bernard, Evelyn Callicutt, Katie Dunlap (Chair), Susan Eggleston (Mayor), Jane Hancock, Tom Hicks, Jerry O'Brien, Marilyn Phillips (Co-Chair), Bobby Russell, Judy Stevens, and Jean Stutts. Construction dates were derived from county tax records, from the deed research completed by Lisa W. Currie and Tom Hicks (Currie/Hicks), from additional on-line research with the Montgomery County Register of Deeds (MCRD), and from the Star STEP Program January 7, 2013 meeting participants (Star STEP).

Properties are coded as C (contributing) or NC (noncontributing due to age or alterations). All contributing resources were constructed during the period of significance, 1896 to 1963, and retain sufficient integrity of design, setting, materials, and workmanship to contribute to the historic character of the district. Material alterations, including door and window replacements, the installation of aluminum or vinyl siding, the painting of masonry, and replacement porch posts and railings are common in the district. However, if the building retains its original form, fenestration pattern, and significant architectural features, it is considered contributing to the district. The Star Hotel, 118 North Main Street, retains a high level of architectural integrity with original weatherboards and imbricated shingles in the gables, original doors and windows, including three-part windows in the gables, and decorative porch railings and trim. The Carl Stout House, 153 Owens Street, has been altered with vinyl siding and replacement porch posts and has several additions at the rear. Yet it retains its original form, fenestration, and wood windows and is considered a contributing resource. For commercial structures, the replacement of original storefronts is common, though many, replaced during the period of significance, contribute to the district's significance. As long as the building retains historic material, cornice detailing, and/or upper level fenestration, it is considered a contributing resource.

Noncontributing resources are those that post-date 1963 or have lost architectural integrity because of changes to the form, massing, or fenestration of the building. For example, the D. T. Wright Building, 134 South Main Street, retains its original form and storefront configuration, but a front-gabled roof has been added above the parapet, making it a noncontributing resource.

East Bank Street

115 E. Bank – James Claude McIntosh House – c. 1921

C – Building

This two-story, triple-A-roofed I-house is three bays wide and single pile with a two-story gabled ell at the left rear (southeast). The house has a brick pier-and-curtain wall foundation, weatherboards, and a 5V metal

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 4Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

roof. It has a three-light-over-three-panel door, two-over-two wood-sash windows, and a wide fascia. Two-light windows in the front and west gables have arched surrounds. The gable ends have partial cornice returns and the front gable has a full return. The hip-roofed front porch is supported by columns without bases or capitals. There are two exterior brick chimneys on the rear of the front block and one in the gable end of the rear ell. An original two-story, shed-roofed porch on the west elevation of the rear ell has been enclosed at the first-floor level and on both levels of the far south end. The house was likely constructed around 1921 by James Claude McIntosh (Star STEP). It was transferred by his son, John Paul McIntosh, to his wife (John's mother), Mrs. Vernie Allen McIntosh, in 1940 (MCRD).

C-Building – Warehouse, c. 1945 – One-story, side-gabled, frame building with concrete-block piers, corrugated metal sheathing, a 5V metal roof, a batten door on the north elevation, and an overhead door on the west elevation. The building was moved to the site from a location on West Bank Street; it was used as storage for the McIntosh Hardware (Star STEP).

West Bank Street**W. Bank Street at N. Railroad – Constable's Office and Jail – c. 1917, c. 1945 C – Building**

This one-story, parapet-roofed brick building was erected around 1917 as the Constable's Office and County Jail. It is three bays wide with brick laid in a five-to-one common bond, a three-light-over-three-panel Craftsman-style door, and four-over-one Craftsman-style windows on the façade and left (west) elevation. There is a recessed sign panel above the door, brick corbelling and terra cotta coping on the parapet. A high window at the rear of the left elevation has metal bars indicating that the jail space was at the rear of the building. A one-bay-wide addition on the right (east) was constructed around 1945 to house the town's fire truck (Star STEP). It is a concrete-block structure with a brick veneer laid in a six-to-one common bond on the façade and a metal garage door on the façade. The building has been used as storage since the late 1950s when the building at 222 South Main Street was enlarged to serve as the Town Hall.

Cemetery Street**103 Cemetery – Leach-Allen House and Wright Dairy – c. 1906, c. 1926 C – Building**

This one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled house faces the grassy lawn to its west with the entrance on the north elevation facing Cemetery Street. The house is three bays wide and four bays deep with a projecting front-gabled wing centered on the façade and a full-width gabled rear ell. The house has a brick foundation, weatherboards, and a metal shingle roof with a decorative gable on the right (north) side of the projecting front wing. It has six-over-one, wood-sash windows that are paired in the gables. The six-light-over-three-panel door on the left side of the projecting front wing has two-light-over-three-panel sidelights. A hip-roofed porch that extends across the front and right sides of the front wing and is supported by squat, tapered wood posts on tall brick piers.

A one-story, rock-faced, concrete-block milkhouse is attached to the right rear (northwest) corner of the rear wing of the house and may have been constructed as a dairy. It has six-over-one, wood-sash windows, weatherboards in the gables, a metal roof, and a five-panel door on the west elevation. The door is flanked by six-over-one windows and small openings with hinged batten doors. The building was used to strain the milk

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 5Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

and to sterilize the bottles. Lydia Leach purchased the property in 1906 and likely constructed the house soon after. In 1919, she sold the house to Dr. W. D. Allen, a Norfolk Southern Railroad physician. In 1926 it was sold to G. H. Wright and W. C. Wright (Currie/Hicks). The three Wright brothers, D. T., G. H., and W. C. owned a livery stable on the property. D. T. Wright soon purchased his brothers interest in the land and operated a dairy there; tunnels below Dameron and Cemetery streets allowed the cows to walk to pasture without crossing the roads (Star STEP).

C-Building – Dairy Barn, c. 1926 – Large, one- and two-story, frame building is eight bays wide and four bays deep with a parapet roof that steps down to the rear (west). It has German-profile weatherboards, four-over-four wood-sash windows on the second floor, and wide paired batten vehicle doors that lead to through passages on the first floor. There is a one-story, one-bay-wide, shed-roofed section that extends the depth of the building along the north elevation. The four-bay-wide, shed-roofed section on the south side has four, four-light windows on the first floor and four-over-four windows flanking paired batten doors on the second-floor level. The shed-roofed sections have 5V metal roofs and there is metal roofing on the parapet. There was a small mill for milling grains inside the Dairy Barn (Star STEP). The roof on the back one-third of the building and on the rear of the one-story section has collapsed.

C-Building – Corn Crib, c. 1919 – One-story, side-gabled, frame corn crib with a standing-seam metal roof, slat walls, and a shed-roofed section on the east elevation.

C-Building – Shed, c. 1950 – One-story, side-gabled frame shed with vertical metal sheathing and a metal roof.

Dameron Street**Dameron at the Railroad Tracks – Leach Cemetery – 1859****C – Site**

The Leach Cemetery faces Dameron Street and extends the full depth of the block with the railroad forming its south and east borders and a row of trees and bushes forming the north border. The cemetery is predominantly open grassy space, though there is a small grove of trees near the southeast corner of the property and two large trees near the center of the cemetery around which a circular gravel drive extends from Dameron Street. Stones are arranged in rows parallel to Dameron Street and are clustered near the street with open grassy areas to the east. The oldest tombstones date to 1859 and 1865 and belong to Fannie and Martin Hunsucker, children of M. and L. Hunsucker. They are located in a row on the north side of the cemetery with other stones for the Leach family, including an obelisk topped by an urn for Angus Leach. The cemetery is still in use and these earliest graves are surrounded by other late nineteenth and early twentieth century stones, including modern granite stones placed as late 2011. A small group of earlier tombstones for W. F. and Jennie Smith and their two children are located near the northeast corner of the property, separate from the other stones and date from 1878, 1894, and 1895; they were moved to the property around 1980 when the new US Highway 220 was constructed (Star STEP). A granite star with the name “Leach Cemetery” faces Dameron Street; it was given by the Halcyon Woman’s Club in 1995.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 6Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina**Depot Street****Durham and Charlotte Railroad Right-of-Way, Depot Street – 1896****C – Structure**

The one-hundred-foot wide railroad right-of-way consists of two lanes of track running east-west just north of Depot Street. It extends under the overhead bridge at North Main Street and there is an at-grade crossing at Dameron Street just west of the district. It was constructed by the Durham and Charlotte Railroad, but is currently part of the Aberdeen and Carolina Western Railroad.

102 Depot – Star Railroad Depot – c. 1920**C – Building**

The one-story, frame depot is seven bays wide and four bays deep with a hipped roof with flared eaves and wide overhangs on the façade, rear (north), and right (east) elevations that becomes a side-gabled roof on the left (west) end where an original maintenance section has been removed. The building has German-profile weatherboards, six-over-six wood-sash windows, and six-panel wood doors. There is a door, a pair of six-light awning windows, and a modern, single-light picture window on the east elevation. A projecting bay on the north elevation, facing the railroad tracks, has four-over-four wood-sash windows on all three sides. The building has two interior brick chimneys. A CSX employee bunk car has been attached to the west elevation of the depot, where the maintenance wing originally stood, to provide extra office space. The car has a metal exterior with ten windows along the south side (facing the road), each sheltered by a small metal awning. The wheels have been obscured by wood lattice and a wood deck on the left (west) end of the car provides access to the interior of the car.

The depot was built around in 1920 at the junction of the north-south and east-west lines of the Norfolk Southern Railroad, originally constructed as the Asheboro and Montgomery Railroad and the Durham and Charlotte Railroad, respectively. It is currently operated as a shortline, or regional freight line, by the Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway Company. The train yard is used for the repair and maintenance of rail cars, resulting in boxcars, engines, and other cars in various states of repair being stored temporarily in the train yard.

NC-Building – Train Shed, c. 1980 – Large, arched-roofed train shed has vertical metal sheathing, a 5V metal roof and attached, shed-roofed bays on the south and west elevations. It is located directly on the tracks so that trains can pull into and through the building via the large metal doors on the east and west elevations.

NC-Building – Train Shed, c. 2000 – Large, front-gabled train shed has horizontal metal sheathing, a corrugated metal roof, and a large, overhead door.

139 Depot – P. D. Snipes and Company/“The Grab” Store – c. 1917**C – Building**

The one-story, parapet-roof commercial structure is four bays deep with a recessed storefront on the façade. It was constructed with a five-to-one common bond brick and has a parapet that steps down to the rear of the structure and three interior brick chimneys on the left (east) elevation. The storefront features a recessed one-light-over-two-panel door flanked by replacement windows of varying sizes surrounded by plywood sheathing and a faux stone veneer. A multi-light transom spans the storefront below a brick soldier course. The storefront is sheltered by a later metal roof supported by dressed timbers. The site slopes to the rear to reveal a basement level with a combination of double-hung and single-sash windows on the east and west elevations and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 7Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

a door on the east elevation. Mrs. Vernie Allen McIntosh purchased the property in 1914 and likely constructed the store around 1917 as a sort of company store for the Norfolk Southern Railroad. The store provided refreshments to railroad workers and travelers during their short stops and provided services and extended credit to the trainmen. It was operated as the P. D. Snipes and Company Store, but was nicknamed “The Grab” for the ease with which people could descend from the train to purchase refreshments and other items (Star STEP). It is currently used as a residence.

East Street**126 East – First Baptist Church of Star – c. 1931, c. 1953****C – Building**

This unusual church has a brick veneer on the first story, vinyl siding on the clerestory (which rises over only the center portion of the building), and a truncated hipped roof. The building is roughly square and is seven bays wide and five bays deep. A projecting pediment on the facade is supported by full-height brick piers and has a bell tower centered on the gabled roof. The brick foundation below the projecting watertable and the knee walls flanking the front stairs are covered with stucco. Centered on the façade, the paired modern doors have a stained-glass transom. The building has stained-glass windows throughout. First floor windows have stained-glass transoms, clerestory windows are shorter and generally paired, and all windows have protective storm windows. A two-story, hip-roofed brick addition extends across the rear of the building and beyond the main structure on the right elevation. It has stationary, multi-light metal windows flanked by five-light casement windows on the first floor and paired four-light metal casement windows on the second floor. A modern entrance door centered on the south elevation is sheltered by a flat-roofed porch supported by decorative metal posts. The First Baptist Church of Star was formed in 1887 and erected a building on this site. The current structure was constructed around 1931 and the addition was completed around 1953.

Harper Street**100 Harper – Seward House – c. 1930****C – Building**

This one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled bungalow is two bays wide and double-pile with a shed-roofed front dormer, a gabled rear wing, and an unusual two-story, parapet-roofed section adjoined to the left (west) elevation. The house has a brick veneer, asphalt shingles in the gables and dormer, eight-over-one Craftsman-style wood-sash windows, exposed rafter tails and knee brackets in the dormers. A twelve-over-one window on the left end of the façade is flanked by eight-over-one, Craftsman-style windows. The front door is sheltered by a full-width engaged porch supported by square brick columns on brick piers. The porch extends beyond the right (east) elevation as a side-gabled porte-cochere on matching brick supports. There is an interior brick chimney, paired windows in the right gable and three windows in the shed-roofed dormer. The two-story section on the left is two bays wide and double-pile with a parapet roof with terra cotta coping that steps down to the rear. It has a small shed roof concealing the parapet on the façade and has eight-over-one, Craftsman-style wood-sash windows throughout. The gabled rear wing is single pile with an exterior brick chimney and a projecting, shed-roofed bay at the rear. The earliest known occupant is the Seward family (Star STEP).

NC-Building – Shed, c. 1990 – One-story, front-gabled, frame shed with plywood sheathing, a metal roof, a pedestrian entrance on the south elevation, and a modern overhead door on the east elevation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 8Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina**101 Harper – J. B. Simmons House – c. 1922****C – Building**

This two-story, side-gabled, Colonial Revival-style house is five bays wide and double-pile. It has a brick veneer, an exterior brick chimney in the left (south) gable end, and a brick basketweave watertable. Most windows have been replaced, though several six-over-six, wood-sash windows remain at the second-floor level and in the gables. The six-light-over-one-panel, Craftsman-style door has four-light-over-one-panel sidelights and is sheltered by a hip-roofed porch supported by full-height brick piers with a wood railing at the roofline. There is a one-story, hip-roofed porch on the right (north) elevation and a one-story porte-cochere on the left elevation. Both are supported by full-height brick piers and have wood railings at the roofline. A one-story, brick ell extends from the right rear (northeast) with a later screened porch south of the ell. J. B. and Minnie Simmons purchased the property in 1922 and likely constructed the house soon after (Currie/Hicks). Arthur Clegg (Doc) Wallace, an early town pharmacist owned the house from 1952 to 1979 (Currie/Hicks, Star STEP).

C-Building – Shed, c. 1922 – One-story, front-gabled, frame shed with vinyl siding and a metal roof.

C-Building – Garage, c. 1922 – One-story, front-gabled, brick garage matches the house with two garage bays on the east elevation.

112 Harper – Jesse Houser Sr. House – c. 1920**C – Building**

This one-story, hip-roofed house is four bays wide and single-pile with a projecting, front-gabled bay centered on the façade. The house has a brick foundation, aluminum siding, and weatherboards in the front gable. It has one-over-one wood-sash windows and a replacement front door. An engaged porch extends across the right (east) two bays of the façade supported by columns on stuccoed piers. There is an interior chimney in the left wing. The earliest known occupant is Jesse Houser Sr. (Star STEP).

NC-Building – Shed, c. 2000 – One-story, gambrel-roofed, prefabricated shed with vertical plywood sheathing and paired doors on the south elevation.

North Main Street**NE corner N. Main and E. Bank streets – Bank of Star – c. 1910****C – Building**

This two-story, brick bank is among the most decorative commercial buildings in the district. The existing three-bay-wide structure is all that remains of a larger building that original extended to the north. The building is three bays deep with a buff-colored brick façade and red-brick side and rear elevations. There are two wide arched window openings on the left (north) end of the façade that extend so low that the sill is just above the sidewalk. An inset corner entrance on the south end of the façade has sidelights and a three-part transom, though it has been fully boarded up. There are one-over-one wood-sash windows on the second-floor, each with an arched transom. The three bays are separated by projecting pilasters made up of brick quoins. There are arched brick hoods over each window, two courses of projecting brick between the two floors, recessed sign panels and brick corbelling on the parapet. The façade decoration extends around the first bay of the right (south) elevation. The building originally extended several bays to the north, but those sections of the building have been destroyed by fire. The side elevations have red brick in a five-to-one common bond with arched hoods over the boarded-up windows. The corbelled brick parapet steps down to the rear and conceals a metal shed roof. There is a one-light-over-one-panel door with an arched brick surround at the rear of the right

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 9

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

elevation. The building was erected by the Bank of Star, who acquired the property in 1910. The bank failed in 1931 and in 1935 the Bank of Biscoe opened in the building, operating until 1939 when the building became the Hayes Downing Phillips undertaking business (Currie/Hicks). The interior of the building has been damaged by a subsequent fire.

NW corner of N. Main and W. Bank – Vaughn Building – c. 1914, c. 1953, c. 1962 **C – Building**

This two- and three-story, brick building was constructed in phases from c. 1914 to c. 1962. The left (south) section was erected first and is seven bays wide and five bays deep with a five-to-one common bond, four-over-four wood-sash windows in arched brick surrounds, and an arched entrance bay with modern glass entry centered on the east elevation. It has several rows of brick corbelling between the first and second stories and at the parapet. There are boarded-up windows and loading bays on the rear (west) elevation and an additional garage bay has been added to the left elevation. The roof was raised and vents were added above the second-floor windows when the building was extended to the right (north) around 1953. The c. 1953 section is three stories tall and four bays wide, constructed of a six-to-one common bond with fifteen-light metal windows with operable six-light awning windows. It has a parapet roof with terra cotta coping. A c. 1962 addition to the north is two stories tall and six bays wide with four-light jalousie windows and a two-panel wood door on the right end of the façade. A one-story wing on the north elevation is covered with corrugated metal sheathing. The building is sited on a narrow strip of land between North Main Street and the north-south railroad tracks. It abuts the sidewalk, which covers over some of the basement-level windows due to the raising of the road level in 1929 to meet the Overhead Bridge on North Main Street. The building was erected c. 1914 for the Vaughn and Company as a turpentine distillery. In 1945, the building was sold to C. V. Richardson, who operated the Clayson Knitting Company (Currie/Hicks). It was later used by the Laneer Furniture Company and remains in use as storage (Star STEP).

VACANT LOT

S. of 118 N. Main – Star Hotel Garden – c. 1980

NC – Site

The garden is located on the site of the northern portion of the Bank of Star building, a commercial structure that has been destroyed. The formal garden is centered on a three-tier fountain in a circular pool. The pool is surrounded by a landscaped area with columns topped by potted plants at the perimeter. It is owned and maintained by the owners of the Star Hotel.

118 N. Main – Star Hotel – 1896

C – Building

The grand, two-story, Star Hotel is one of the most impressive buildings in the district with decorative woodwork and a high, gabled roofline typical of the Queen Anne style. The building has two main sections, a truncated-hip-roofed section on the west and a front-gabled wing on the east with façades and entrances facing both North Main and Depot streets. Viewed from Depot Street, the hip-roofed section is seven bays wide and double-pile with a projecting, front-gabled bay centered on the façade. It has a brick foundation, weatherboards, imbricated shingles in the gables, and three interior corbelled brick chimneys. There is a projecting bay at the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 10Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

rear of the right elevation, which is canted at the first-floor level, and a gabled ell at the left rear (southeast) with a one-story, projecting bay on its gable end. The building has four-over-four wood-sash windows throughout and a combination of three-light-over-three-panel doors and six-panel wood doors. There are three-part, multi-light windows with arched surrounds in the front and right gables and single, multi-light windows in the rear gables. There is a turned railing around the truncated roofline. A one-story, hip-roofed porch extends across the façade, right, and rear elevations supported by turned posts with decorative brackets and a spindle frieze. An entrance on the right elevation, facing North Main Street, projects slightly and has a small, gable-roofed, second-floor porch with turned posts and railings and a spindle frieze. There are low gables over entrance to the porch on the north and south elevations and curved roofline and railings at the corners. The rear of the porch, abutting the rear ell has been enclosed.

A two-story, front-gabled section adjoins the main section of the inn on the left (east) elevation. It is two bays wide and four-pile with a projecting, side-gabled wing on the left elevation, flush with the façade. There is a later exterior wood stair in the left gable end, a one-story, hip-roofed section behind the left gable, and a two-story, hip-roofed section behind the rear gable. The building has two interior corbelled brick chimneys and a one-over-one window flanked by single-light windows in the front gable. All other details, including the hip-roofed porch across the façade, match those of the main section. The Star Hotel was built by the Durham and Charlotte Railroad around 1896 on land sold to the railroad by Angus Leach. It housed railroad employees, travelers, and incoming loggers and miners and was likely run by Angus and Deborah Leach who purchased the hotel from the Norfolk Southern Railroad in 1911 (Star STEP). In 1924, the building was sold at auction. It has been known as the Magnolia Inn since the 1970s (Star STEP).

NC-Building – Barn, c. 2004 – One-story, gambrel-roofed, frame barn with concrete-block foundation, weatherboards, and a 5V metal roof. The barn has a six-over-six window and sliding bay on the west elevation.

NC-Structure – Well Enclosure, c. 2004 – One-story, hip-roofed structure with asphalt roof with exposed rafter tails supported by turned posts with spindle frieze. The well itself has been faced with stone.

NC-Building – Shed, c. 2004 – One-story, front-gabled frame shed with concrete-block foundation, weatherboards, and an asphalt-shingled roof with exposed rafter tails. The shed has a six-over-six wood-sash window on the north elevation and paired batten doors on the west elevation. It is a reconstruction of an original building on the property.

NC-Building – Shed, c. 1980 – One-story, shed-roofed shed with brick foundation, vertical corrugated metal sheathing, and a metal roof. It has six-over-six windows on the east and west elevations and a sliding batten door on the north elevation. A metal shed roof supported by square posts extends from the east elevation and shelters a picnic space with a modern railing.

N. Main Street – Overhead Bridge – 1929, 1940**C – Structure**

This Art Deco-style concrete bridge extends North Main Street across the east-west line of the current Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway tracks. The bridge accommodates two lanes of traffic with sidewalks on each side of the street. It has concrete supports under the bridge and three sections of railing on each side of the street, each with concrete posts with slightly recessed blind arches flanking a concrete balustrade with arched openings and a wide concrete cap. Each of the four corners of the bridge has a stepped concrete pier.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 11

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

The plaque on the southeast corner of the bridge reads, "State Project 5553 - Built 1929 - Widened with Federal Aid 1940". The railroad tracks were laid in 1896 by the Durham and Charlotte Railroad, but were owned and operated by Norfolk Southern Railroad when the bridge was constructed.

SE corner of N. Main and Owens streets – Angus Leach House – c. 1857, c. 1930 C – Building

This small, one-story, side-gabled, frame building is single-pile with a full-width, shed-roofed rear section. The building has a stone foundation, board-and-batten sheathing with weatherboards in the gables, and an exterior stone chimney in the left (east) gable end. It has an asphalt-shingled roof, four-over-four wood-sash window in the right (west) gable end and four-light casement windows with operable wood shutters in the gables and in the shed-roofed section. The batten door is sheltered by a small shed roof on knee brackets. The building is located on the east side of North Main Street between the Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway (formerly Norfolk Southern Railroad) tracks and Owens Street. Angus Leach was originally from Moore County and the house was moved from its original site in Moore County in the 1920s or 1930s and was placed on the approximate site of the original Hunsucker Store (Star STEP). While county tax records date the building to 1857, the exterior materials appear to date from the 1920s or 1930s when the building was moved. The house is now the Halcyon Woman's Club House.

South Main Street

100-102 S. Main – McIntosh Hardware Store – c. 1916

C – Building

This two-story, brick commercial building is four bays wide and has a parapet roof with terra cotta coping that steps down to the rear of the building. The building has two storefronts, each with a recessed modern double-leaf fifteen-light French door flanked by angled storefront windows on a low brick knee wall. There is a three-light transom and a soldier-course header over each storefront. Double-hung vinyl windows on the second-floor façade have soldier-course headers and rowlock sills. There are vinyl windows and boarded-up entrances on the rear (east) elevation. The land was purchased in 1916 by R. L. E. McIntosh and the building was likely constructed soon after (MCRD). It remained in use as a hardware store until the 1960s.

101 S. Main – Pocket Park – c. 2000

NC – Site

The small park is located on the site of the former United States Post Office. The site is paved and encircled with a low brick wall. There is a brick planter centered in the space with metal benches facing it. A plaque on the planter reads, "In memory of all postal employees who served the public at this location". The first post office in Star was located inside the Hunsucker Store, but the first dedicated post office building stood on this site (Star STEP).

103-105 S. Main – Star Barber Shop – c. 1919

C – Building

This one-story, two-bay-wide, brick commercial building has a parapet roof that steps down toward the rear of the building. Each storefront features a door near the center of the building and two display windows on a low brick knee wall. The left storefront (105 S. Main) retains an original one-light-over-one-panel door while the right storefront (103 S. Main) has a replacement nine-light-over-two-panel door. Each storefront has a three-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 12

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

part transom and a small, pent roof supported by sawn brackets over the storefront. The two storefronts are separated by a brick pilaster and there is corbelling on the parapet. The rear of the right bay (103 S. Main) features an arched doorway flanked by windows. A shed-roofed section has been added to the rear of the left bay (105 S. Main). The building was erected by Bernie B. Monroe around 1919 as the Star Barber Shop (Currie/Hicks).

107-109 S. Main – Shamburger-Monroe Building – c. 1919

C – Building

This two-story, brick commercial building has a central entrance flanked by storefronts. The right storefront (107 S. Main) has a replacement door flanked by multi-light display windows, a three-part transom that has been boarded up, and a shallow pent roof over the storefront. It has four six-over-six wood-sash windows in arched brick openings at the second-floor level. The center entrance has a replacement double-leaf six-panel door in an arched opening with a single replacement window at the second-floor level. The left storefront (109 S. Main) has been recently restored and has an original one-light-over-three-panel double-leaf door with a two-light transom flanked by display windows, each with a two-light transom and brick knee wall. A shallow pent roof supported by sawn brackets extends the full width of the storefront and there are three replacement one-over-one windows in arched openings on the second-floor level. The three sections are separated by brick pilasters and there is brick corbelling between the pilasters. The parapet steps down to the rear and conceals a metal shed roof. The rear of the building has a full-width, one-story, shed-roofed, concrete-block addition. B. B. Shamburger and Bernie B. Monroe acquired the land in 1919 and likely constructed the building soon after. The north storefront (107 S. Main) was operated as a store until 1959 when it was sold to Paul Davis who operated the Davis Cabinet Shop in the space until the late 1970s. The south storefront (109 S. Main) housed a variety of businesses over time including a furniture store, antique shop, and Joe's Barber Shop (Currie/Hicks, Star STEP).

108-112 S. Main – Allen Building – c. 1915

C – Building

This two-story commercial building is three bays wide and has brick laid in a five-to-one common bond. The parapet roof with terra cotta coping steps down toward the rear of the building. The façade has a faux-stone veneer on the first floor with brick pilasters dividing the bays on the second floor and brick corbelling at the parapet between the pilasters. A replacement door centered on the façade has an historic fanlight in an arched opening. Each storefront features an original one-light door with replacement windows on a low knee wall. The prism glass transoms have been boarded up and an exposed metal header beam remains. The second floor apartments have four-over-one, Craftsman-style wood-sash windows on the façade and side elevations. Door and window openings on the first-floor of the left (north) elevation have been boarded up and there are replacement windows on the rear elevation. The property was acquired by Barna Allen in 1912 and the county tax records date the building to 1915 (Currie/Hicks). Over the years, it held a café, dentist office, drug store, and insurance company on the first floor with residential space above (Star STEP).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 13

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

114 S. Main – Caudill Building – 1950s

C – Building

This one-story commercial building is a single-bay wide with a painted brick veneer on the façade and painted concrete block on the side and rear elevations. The shed roof is concealed behind a brick parapet with terra cotta coping. The recessed storefront extends nearly the full width of the façade and features an original one-light-over-one-panel, double-leaf door with transom flanked by large display windows on a low brick knee wall. There is a twenty-five-light picture window on the right (south) elevation. The building was constructed in the 1950s by Bob Caudill for light manufacturing and furniture sales (Star STEP). It was later a NAPA auto parts store.

VACANT LOT – south of 114 S. Main

VACANT LOT – between 109 and 115 S. Main

115 S. Main – Wallace Building – c. 1946, c. 1969

NC – Building

This small, one-story commercial building features a buff-colored brick veneer on the façade and painted brick veneer on the side and rear elevations. There is a four-light-over-four-panel door on the right (north) end of the façade and a large display window on the left (south) end. An asphalt-shingled hipped roof projects from the parapet and extends the full width of the façade supported by columns. Door and window openings at the rear of the side elevations have been filled with brick. Arthur and Mary Wallace acquired the property late in 1945 and erected the building as a realtor and accounting office (Currie/Hicks). The hipped roof on columns and the blond brick veneer were likely added when the property was sold to the current owner in 1969.

119 S. Main – Freeman Store Building – c. 1911

C – Building

This two-story commercial building is one of the most intact and highly decorative buildings in the district. The building is three bays wide and six bays deep with a brick veneer, brick pilasters between the bays, and decorative corbelling on the parapet. The right (north) bay has a recessed entrance supported by steel poles with a one-light-over-one-panel door flanked by one-light windows with wood aprons and two-light transoms. A shallow pent roof extends the width of the storefront and is supported by sawn brackets. A single window with two-light transom is located on the right (north) elevation. Centered on the façade, an entrance with arched transom in an arched brick surround has been boarded up. The left (south) bay has a three-part display window with metal poles supporting the brick wall above. Each window has a two-light transom and there is a shallow pent roof supported by sawn brackets over the storefront. The building has one-over-one wood-sash windows at the second floor level with segmental arched openings and projecting arched brick hoods over each window. An arched entrance bay at the rear of the right elevation has a double-leaf one-light-over-one-panel door with one-light-over-one-panel sidelights and an arched, leaded-glass transom. Small windows on the rear elevation face the north-south railroad tracks. An original elevator operated by weights remains within the building (Star STEP). Ira and Ellen Freeman acquired the property in 1911 and likely erected the building soon after. It was

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 14

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

initially used as a general store, but was sold and adjoined to the Pine Hosiery Mill in 1983 as the weaving and sorting area for the mill (Currie/Hicks).

121 S. Main – Bonkemeyer Store Building – c. 1915

C – Building

This two-story commercial building was built adjacent to the Freeman Store and echoes many of its design elements. The building has brick pilasters separating the second-floor bays and decorative brick corbelling between the first and second stories and on the parapet. A boarded-up entrance on the right (north) end of the façade has an arched transom. The storefront on the left (south) end of the façade has an arched double-leaf entrance that has been boarded up with wide arched transom in an arched brick surround. The entrance is flanked by display windows, each with a low brick knee wall and shallow pent roof supported by sawn brackets. The second floor has one-over-one wood-sash windows in arched brick openings with projecting arched hoods. G. R. Bonkemeyer acquired the property in 1915 and likely constructed the store soon after (Currie/Hicks). It was transferred from John Paul McIntosh to the Halcyon Woman's Club in 1983 and was later sold to the Pine Hosiery Mill (MCRD). Bonkemeyer also operated a hotel that has since been destroyed; it stood behind the store, across the north-south railroad tracks to the east (Star STEP).

VACANT LOT – north of 124 S. Main

124 S. Main – Pontiac Dealership – c. 1946

C – Building

This one-story commercial building is seven bays wide with a common-bond brick veneer and a brick parapet with terra cotta coping. The middle two bays project slightly and include a three-part display window and a six-light-over-three-panel door with a three-light transom. A front-gabled canopy extends from these projecting bays with a metal roof supported by metal posts on a concrete island that once held gas pumps. The right (south) two bays are two original overhead garage doors and there is a twelve-light metal window on the right elevation. The left (south) three bays originally had two garage openings and a single pedestrian entrance. The leftmost bay has a modern overhead door. The middle garage bay has been enclosed with brick and a display window and modern door have been installed. The rightmost bay has a five-panel wood door with boarded-up transom. The parapet wall steps down to the rear and windows on the rear have been boarded up. A gabled wing extends from the rear with a brick veneer and boarded-up windows. There is a garage entrance in the rear gable allowing for vehicles to be driven from the façade through to the rear of the building. According to county tax records, the building was erected in 1946 by R. L. and Annie Caudill, who acquired the property in 1919. Built as a Pontiac dealership and Sinclair Gas Station, the building was sold to and the businesses operated by Clegg Kearns (Star STEP, Currie/Hill). The building was eventually repossessed by Montgomery Savings and Loan and was sold to Robert (Bob) Ray Jenkins in 1979 (Star STEP).

NC-Structure – Carport, c. 1979 – One-story, front-gabled metal carport on metal pole supports stands on the vacant lot just north of the building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 15Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina**133 S. Main – Pine Hosiery Mill – c. 1988****NC – Building**

This large, one-story, brick industrial building is laid in a running bond and has metal coping at the parapet roof. The building has two entrances near the left (south) end, one with a fabric awning, and floor-level vents along the entire façade. The original Pine Hosiery Mill was destroyed by fire in 1987 and the current building was likely erected soon after.³ The interior of the building is now connected to the interior of the adjoining Bonkemeyer Store Building (121 S. Main).

134 S. Main – D. T. Wright Building – c. 1948, c. 2006**NC – Building**

The one-story commercial building features a brick veneer laid in a five-to-one common bond. The storefront extends nearly the full width of the façade with a soldier-course header over the boarded-up windows. The recessed entrance, centered on the façade, has a double-leaf one-light-over-one-panel door with a single-light transom and one-light sidelights on a low brick knee wall. There is a recessed sign panel near the top of the brick façade. There is a two-part display window near the front corner of the left (north) elevation. Other windows on the left and rear elevations are multi-light metal windows with operable awning sections. There are modern overhead garage doors on the left and rear elevations. A modern front-gabled roof was installed after 2006, replacing an original brick parapet. The roof has vertical wood sheathing in the gable and the change to the roof is a significant alteration to the building. D. T. Wright erected the building in the late 1940s as a farm machinery store and garage; it was later operated as Johnsons Truck Service (Star STEP).

136 S. Main – Commercial Building – c. 1955**C – Building**

This one-story, brick commercial building was built on the site of the former movie theater. It has a shed roof behind a brick parapet that steps down toward the rear of the building. The building is very plain with a brick running-bond veneer with a single header course at the parapet. A recessed storefront on the right (south) end of the façade has a modern metal-frame glass door with transom flanked by display windows with integrated brick planters below the windows. The storefront is sheltered by an aluminum awning attached to the building by metal cables. The rear of the building has a metal veneer and two overhead garage doors. The building was erected in 1955; it was remodeled in 1979 to serve as a dispatch center and garage for ambulances, but has been vacant since 2004 (Star STEP).

138-140 S. Main – Auman Building I – c. 1924**C – Building**

This two-story commercial building is two bays wide with a brick veneer laid in a six-to-one common bond and a shed roof behind a brick parapet with terra cotta coping. There is a one-light-over-one-panel door with transom on the left (north) end of the façade that leads to second-floor spaces. A storefront on the right (south) end of the façade has a recessed entrance with a double-leaf one-light door with a single-light transom. Display windows on each side of the door have metal frames and rest on brick knee walls. A cloth awning stretches the full width of the façade, sheltering the storefront and second-floor entrance. Six-over-six wood-

³ Huntley, Rosemary King (ed.) The Heritage of Montgomery County, North Carolina, Volume II. Charlotte: Delmar Printing, 1992, pg. 93.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 16

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

sash windows on the second floor have cloth awnings as well. Rufus Auman acquired the property in 1914 and likely constructed the building around 1924 (Currie/Hicks). The commercial space on the first floor served a variety of businesses over the years, including a laundry and M. A. Pickett's Department Store with residential space on the second floor (Star STEP).

142 S. Main – Auman Building II – c. 1925

C – Building

This one-story, commercial building features a painted brick running-bond veneer and high parapet with concrete-block side and rear elevations. The storefront extends nearly the full width of the façade and features a recessed entrance with a modern metal-framed glass door with one-light transom. Modern display windows with metal frames on a low brick knee wall flank the entrance, though windows to the left (north) of the entrance have been boarded up. Rufus Auman acquired the property in 1924 and likely constructed the building soon after (Currie/Hicks). The building was initially used as a grocery and general store. It was later the M. A. Pickett's Department Store and was connected to the Auman Building I by a brick archway (Star STEP).

144 S. Main – Kinlaw Building – c. 1948

C – Building

This low, one-story commercial building has a brick veneer laid in a running bond with a flat roof behind a brick parapet and concrete-block side and rear elevations. There is a modern metal-frame glass door on the right (south) end of the façade and a wide display window on the left (north) end. The entire façade is sheltered by an aluminum awning supported by metal cables. The property was purchased by O. G. and Beatrice M. Kinlaw around 1948 and the building was erected soon after (Currie/Hicks). It was used for various retail purposes, including a dry cleaners, jewelry store, dress shop, sundry shop, stationary store, and office supply store, until 1982 when it became the office for McBride Accounting (Currie/Hicks, Star STEP).

VACANT LOT – between 144 and 150 S. Main

150 S. Main – Esso Filling Station – c. 1940, c. 2001

NC – Building

This one-story Esso Filling Station was constructed around 1940, but was significantly altered with the addition of a second floor and a gambrel roof around 2001. The building is currently seven bays wide and double-pile with vinyl windows and siding and a metal roof with two gabled dormers on the façade. A nine-light-over-two-panel door and a pair of six-panel doors on the façade are sheltered by fabric awnings. The station was operated by Wes Brown (Star STEP).

VACANT LOT – between 150 and 156 S. Main

156 S. Main – Brown Building – c. 1940, c. 1950s

C – Building

This one-story commercial building has a faux-stone veneer on the façade and right (south) elevation, stucco on the left (north) and rear elevations, and a shed roof behind a parapet that steps down toward the rear of the building. The one-light door is centered on the façade with a boarded-up transom with an air conditioning unit and a fabric awning. The door is flanked by glass display windows on a low knee wall with original cast-

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 17

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

iron pole supports and iron headers still visible. There is a display window on the right elevation near the front of the building and a second entrance with transom and a multi-light metal window at the rear of the right elevation. The building was constructed by L. O. Brown around 1940 as a sundry shop and was the Wallace Drug Store in the 1950s and 1960s (Currie/Hicks). The faux-stone veneer was added by Wallace in the late 1950s (Star STEP).

202 S. Main – United States Post Office – c. 1950

C – Building

This one-story, three-bay-wide, brick commercial building features a shed roof behind a brick parapet with terra cotta coping. A picture window centered on the façade is flanked by paired four-light casement windows with two-light transoms. There are one-light-over-two-panel doors on each end of the façade, each with a one-light transom. The left (north) door has had a permanent panel installed over the lower half of the door. The right (south) door serves as the main entrance and has an aluminum awning and a concrete ramp leading to the entrance. There are fixed, multi-light metal windows on the left elevation and small six-light windows at the right rear. Paired two-panel doors at the left rear are sheltered by a flat-roofed metal awning. The building was privately constructed for lease to the USPS around 1950 and continues to be privately managed.

206 S. Main – Kern-Freeman Hardware Store – c. 1949

NC – Building

This one-story, brick commercial building has been altered with the addition of a later metal, front-gabled roof that extends above the historic parapet. The building has a recessed storefront with a one-light door centered on the façade with a boarded-up transom. The entrance is flanked by four-part aluminum-framed display windows with transoms and a low brick knee wall. The entire storefront is sheltered by an aluminum awning supported by metal cables. The building is on an L-shaped parcel that extends around the rear (east) of the adjacent post office. A side-gabled wing extends north from the main block to create an L-shaped building on the lot. The rear wing has a brick veneer on the north and west elevations with ten-light metal windows with four-light operable awning windows on the north elevation. The east elevation is concrete block with a pair of six-light-over-six-panel carriage doors. C. J. Kern acquired the property in 1946 and county tax records date the building to 1949 (MCRD). It was built by brothers-in-law Clyde Kern and Kemper Freeman as the Kern-Freeman Hardware Store and was operated as a hardware store until 1984 (Star STEP).

VACANT LOT – between 206 and 216 S. Main

209 S. Main – Nall's Sewing Center – c. 1947

C – Building

This one-story, three-bay commercial building has a painted brick veneer and brick parapet with terra cotta coping. The building has three storefronts, each with a replacement plate-glass window with an original five-light transom and an adjacent nine-light-over-three-panel door with four-light transom. Transoms on the left (south) bay have been boarded up. There is a modern pre-fabricated metal, side-gabled wing attached to the right rear (northwest). The parapet is several feet higher on the right (north) elevation and then steps down toward the rear of the building. Deeds indicate that the property contained a burned department store when it was transferred to Clegg and Hester Kearns in 1947 (Currie/Hicks, Star STEP). Portions of the burned building may

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 18Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

have been incorporated into the current structure, though the façade dates to c. 1947 when the building was reconstructed for the Nall family who has operated the building as a watch and then sewing machine repair shop since 1947.

211 S. Main – L & M Barber Shop – c. 1947**C – Building**

This one-story, commercial building has a yellow-colored brick veneer on the façade with the parapet featuring alternating rows of bricks projecting slightly. The side and rear elevations have red brick laid in a five-to-one common bond. The storefront has a one-light door and the display window has been closed in with a single double-hung window installed at its center. The storefront is sheltered by an aluminum awning supported by metal cables. The building was constructed around 1947 by Robert P. Morgan, who operated the L & M Barber Shop with Mr. Luther (Star STEP).

216 S. Main – L. L. Richardson House/Phillips Funeral Home – c. 1912, c. 1949, c. 1972**C – Building**

This large, two-story, hip-roofed Foursquare is three bays wide and double-pile with a hip-roofed front dormer. The building has a brick foundation, vinyl siding, replacement one-over-one windows, and faux stone covering the chimneys. The six-panel door is sheltered by a hip-roofed porch supported by vinyl columns. The porch extends the full width of the facade and continues around the left (north) elevation, terminating at a one-story, hip-roofed wing projecting from the left elevation. A one-story, front-gabled section abuts the right (south) elevation and projects beyond the façade. The front of this wing has a brick veneer and slender fixed windows; the rear has a faux-stone veneer. There are a series of one- and two-story sections at the rear that connect to a deep, brick-veneered garage wing at the left rear (northeast). This garage wing has two overhead doors that are accessed by a paved parking area at the rear of the parcel. L. L. Richardson acquired the property in 1912 and likely constructed the home soon after. Upon his death in 1949, the property was sold to Melvin Phillips who operated a funeral home out of the building. The business is currently operated by his son Melvin Riley, Jr. who constructed several additions in 1972, including a chapel and music room, as well as the garage were added to meet the needs of the funeral home.⁴ While the building has been enlarged significantly, the additions do not obscure the original façade and wraparound porch; additionally, they have been covered with a different material to further differentiate them from the historic house.

NC–Building – Garage, c. 2000 – One-story, hip-roofed, three-bay garage with a brick veneer and overhead vinyl doors on the east and west elevations to create drive-through bays.

222 S. Main – Nalls Watch Repair Building/C. V. Richardson Hosiery/Star Town Hall – c. 1938, c. 1940s, c. 1950s**C – Building**

This one-story, commercial building features a brick veneer with a shed roof behind a brick parapet with terra cotta coping. There is a metal-framed glass door centered on the façade with a glass-block window to the

⁴ Richter, Winnie Ingram (ed.) The Heritage of Montgomery County, North Carolina. Winston-Salem: Hunter Publishing Company, 1981, pg. 53.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 19Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

left (north) and a vinyl window to the right (south). A sign panel outlined with a header course of brick is centered between the entrance and the parapet. The parapet steps down toward the rear of the building and there are several double-hung wood windows, near the front of the right elevation with four overhead garage doors toward the rear. The building was enlarged in the 1940s with the addition of an additional brick bay at the rear, continuing the stepped-down parapet with terra cotta coping. A c. 1950s addition at the rear projects slightly from the right elevation and has two additional garage bays with overhead doors and a three-light fixed window flanked by pedestrian doors at the rear of the right elevation. Erected around 1938 by Raleigh Nalls, the building was initially used as a watch repair shop. The first rear addition was made in the 1940s to accommodate C. V. Richardson's hosiery business. It was expanded again in the late 1950s when it became the Town Hall, which included the administrative offices, headquarters for the police and fire departments, and the town library (Currie/Hicks). The Town Hall moved to a new building in 1997 and the building currently houses the town EMS and the Star Branch of the Montgomery County Library.

252 S. Main – Star Methodist Church – 1924, c. 1950s**C – Building**

This one-story, T-plan church has a front-gabled sanctuary that is three bays wide and six bays deep with projecting, two-story wings at the rear. The church has a brick veneer, deep soffits, wide wood fascia boards, and one-over-one stained-glass windows with arched transoms in arched brick surrounds. The replacement double-leaf front door has an arched stained-glass transom and is sheltered by an engaged, front-gabled portico supported by full-height brick piers. The portico has weatherboards in the pediment and a half-round stained-glass window that was added in 1957 (Lassiter, pg. 193). A wood steeple with arched twelve-light windows on each of the four elevations rises from the gabled roof directly above the entrance. The two-story rear wings have one-over-one wood-sash windows on both levels and there is a vinyl door on the front of the left wing. A one-story, hip-roofed section at the rear of the sanctuary is accessed from the exterior and faces the cemetery. In the 1950s, a two-story, side-gabled Education Building was added to the gable end of the original right wing and a one-story, front-gabled section extends toward the front (east) creating a U-shape with the sanctuary. This wing has a brick veneer on the first-floor level with weatherboards at the second-floor level and in the gables, except on the right (south) gable end where the brick veneer extends up through the second floor. It has four-part awning windows flanked by fixed four-light windows. There are two entrances, each sheltered by a flat-roofed metal canopy on decorative metal posts. The Bethlehem Church moved from Bethlehem to Star in 1884 and erected a log structure on this site. The current building dates to 1924 and the Education Building was planned in 1954 and erected shortly after.⁵

C–Site – Cemetery, c. 1884 – The cemetery behind the church contains graves dating to the mid-1880s when the first church was constructed on this site. The tombstones are mostly single granite stones arranged in rows. However, the Shamburger family, who donated the land for the church has a family plot encircled with a low stone wall. Exie Jane McKenzie (wife of W. B. Monroe) has an above ground vault that dates to 1954 and several other members of the Monroe family are buried adjacent to the vault.

⁵ Lassiter, Mable S. Patterns of Timeless Moments: A History of Montgomery County. 1976, pg 193.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 20Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina**403 S. Main – Dr. Tracy E. and Jewel Hussey House – 1954****C – Building**

This one-story, side-gable-on-hip-roofed Ranch is four bays wide and double-pile with a projecting, front-gabled wing on the left (south) end of the façade. The house has a brick foundation, weatherboards, and a wide interior brick chimney. It has two-over-two, horizontal-pane wood-sash windows, generally grouped, and a picture window flanked by two-over-two windows to the right (north) of the entrance. The three-light door is sheltered by a small inset porch supported by a decorative metal post. There is a gable-on-hip-roofed wing projecting from the right rear (northwest) and a gable-on-hip-roofed garage wing on the right elevation that is connected to the house via a screened breezeway. The garage has narrow nine-light window on the east elevation of the garage wing and two eight-light-within-eight-panel original overhead garage doors on its north elevation. According to the current owner's daughter, the house was constructed by Dr. Tracy E. Hussey D.D.S. and his wife Jewel Hussey in 1954 (Star STEP).

416 S. Main – Nat Allen House – c. 1938**C – Building**

This one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled Period Cottage is three bays wide and double-pile with a projecting front-gabled bay on the left (north) end of the façade and a shed-roofed dormer on the right (south) end of the façade. The house has a brick foundation and brick veneer with vertical wood sheathing on the dormer and an exterior brick chimney in the right gable. The house has replacement windows with soldier-course brick headers and concrete windowsills. The two-light-over-four-panel door is sheltered by a two-bay-wide inset porch supported by full-height brick piers. A gabled ell extends from the right rear. County tax records date the building to 1938 and the earliest known occupant is Nat Allen (Star STEP).

NC-Structure – Carport, c. 1980 – One-story, flat-roofed metal carport on metal pole supports. The carport is attached to the front porch by a narrow metal roof.

NC-Building – Shed, c. 1980 – One-story, front-gabled frame shed with plywood sheathing and paired hollow-core doors on the west elevation.

419 S. Main – Bink Deaton House – c. 1912**C – Building**

This one-story, triple-A-roofed house is a common vernacular form with historic and modern applied detail. The house is three bays wide and single-pile with a gabled ell at the right rear. It has a brick foundation, German-profile weatherboards, imbricated shingles and diamond-shaped vent in the front gable, and an interior brick chimney between the main section and the rear ell. The house has two-over-two wood-sash windows with added decorative shutters. The front door is sheltered by a hip-roofed porch supported by tapered wood posts on brick piers. The porch has been altered with the application of a decorative sawn railing between the piers and an applied sawn frieze. A shed-roofed porch extends along the left (south) elevation of the rear ell and there is a side-gabled wing projecting from the ell's right (north) elevation. This wing has German-profile weatherboards and windows matching the main section of the house. A one-story, hip-roofed section (perhaps an enclosed porch) extends along the right elevation from the front porch to the gabled wing and has plywood sheathing and one-over-one windows. There is a flat-roofed section at the rear (west). County tax records date the building to 1912. Bink Deaton occupied the house in the 1940s and 1950s (Star STEP).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 21Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

NC-Structure – Carport, c. 1980 – One-story, front-gabled metal carport on metal pole supports with applied lattice on the side elevations.

C-Building – Shed, c. 1950 – One-story, front-gabled frame shed with plywood sheathing and a 5V metal roof.

NC-Building – Shed, c. 1980 – One-story, prefabricated front-gabled frame shed with plywood sheathing, one-over-one windows, and an asphalt-shingled roof. There is a three-bay-wide, shed-roofed section projecting from the south elevation with board-and-batten sheathing and a central batten door flanked by one-over-one windows.

424 S. Main – Floyd Owens House – c. 1951**C – Building**

This one-story, gable-and-wing Period Cottage is three bays wide and triple-pile with a side-gabled enclosed porch on the left (north) elevation. The house has a brick foundation, brick veneer, a brick chimney on the left elevation between the main house and the left gabled wing, and an exterior brick chimney at the left rear. It has six-over-six wood-sash windows, generally grouped and sheltered by aluminum awnings. The arched, three-light door is inset within a projecting, front-gabled entrance bay with an arched brick opening. An uncovered concrete terrace with a low brick knee wall extends the width of the house and right wing. The left wing is an enclosed porch with wide, flat weatherboards, jalousie windows, and an entrance on the left elevation. County tax records date the building to 1951. The earliest known occupant is Floyd Owens, though Owens sold the house to C. P. Holt in 1953 (MCRD).

C-Building – Shed, c. 1951 – One-story, front-gabled frame shed with German-profile weatherboards, paired plywood doors, and an attached, flat-roofed metal carport supported by metal pole supports.

429 S. Main – Clegg and Hester Kearns House – c. 1942**C – Building**

This one-story, side-gabled, Minimal Traditional-style house is three bays wide and double-pile with a projecting, front-gabled bay centered on the façade. It has a brick foundation, brick veneer, weatherboards in the gables, and an interior brick chimney. The house has six-over-six wood-sash windows with operable shutters, and a single window in each gable. It has a four-over-four wood-sash window on the left (south) end of the façade and on the left elevation. The front door is sheltered by an engaged porch with a catslide roof on the right (north) end of the façade. The porch has been enclosed with storm windows on a sided knee wall and is sheltered by aluminum awnings. County tax records date the building to 1942. Clegg and Hester Kearns constructed the house (Star STEP).

NC-Building – Garage, c. 1980 – One-story, front-gabled, two-bay garage with a low gabled roof and a stone veneer.

C-Building – Shed, c. 1942 – One-story, front-gabled frame shed with weatherboards and a six-light window on the east elevation.

437 S. Main – Auman House – c. 1898**C – Building**

This two-story, side-gabled, Transitional Queen Anne-style house is the oldest remaining house on South Main Street. The house is four bays wide and triple-pile with a projecting two-story, hip-roofed wing

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 22Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

centered on the façade, resulting in a T-shaped plan. The side-hall-plan house has a brick foundation, weatherboards, one-over-one wood-sash windows, and a pressed-tin roof with a hip-roofed dormer on the façade. There is a one-light door on the left (south) end of the projecting wing and one-light-over-two-panel doors on the wings left elevation and the left end of the main side-gabled section. A one-story, hip-roofed porch extends the full width of the façade and wraps around the projecting hip-roofed wing, terminating at the main block. The porch is supported by columns on a concrete-slab floor. There is an interior brick chimney on the right elevation flanked by high windows and a second interior chimney at the intersection of the main section and projecting wing. There is a one-story, hip-roofed enclosed porch at the rear and a modern wood deck at the left rear (southwest). The house was constructed for the Auman family who originally purchased the property in 1897. When the property changed hands within the Auman family in 1903, the deed notes a house on the lot (Currie/Hicks). John Cochran lived there in the 1930s and 1940s and it is currently occupied by Krystle and Alex Black (Star STEP).

C-Building – Wellhouse/Shed, c. 1898 – One-story, hip-roofed frame well house with weatherboards, a 5V metal roof, and an open bay on the east elevation supported by square posts. A hip-roofed garage with a shed-roofed bay on the west elevation is attached to the west end of the well enclosure and has weatherboards and a metal roof matching the well enclosure.

C-Building – Garage, c. 1910 – One-story, hip-roofed frame garage with weatherboards, a 5V metal roof with exposed rafter tails, and double-leaf batten doors sheltering the two vehicular bays. There is a shed-roofed, frame workshop wing attached to the west elevation.

C-Building – Outbuilding, c. 1898 – One-story, hip-roofed, brick building with a 5V metal roof and one-over-one wood-sash windows in segmental-arched brick openings. The building may have been an office or domestic outbuilding.

Okeewemee-Star Road**101 Okeewemee-Star – Star Presbyterian Church – 1953-58, c. 1998****C – Building**

This one-story, front-gabled Colonial Revival-style church is three bays wide and six bays deep with an exposed basement-level space. The church has a brick veneer with projecting brick quoins and a brick watertable. The three-panel, double-leaf door has a single-light stained-glass transom and a classical surround with fluted pilasters. The front-gabled portico has vinyl siding in the gable and is supported by columns. There are fixed stained-glass windows on the main level and double-hung vinyl windows at the basement level. The octagonal steeple is located at the ridge of the church gable. It has louvered vents on each elevation and a steep octagonal spire with a copper roof. According to the stained-glass transom, the church was organized in 1953. The building was constructed at that time with the first services held in the building in 1953. Bricks were brought in by railroad and the Belk Family, of Belk Department Stores, contributed \$5000 toward the construction of the church (Star STEP). It was completed with the construction of the portico in 1958.⁶ The current stained-glass windows were installed in 1998.

⁶ Huntley, pg. 150.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 23

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

128 Okeewemee-Star – Star Medical Clinic – c. 1954, c. 1997

C – Building

This one-story, double-pile, gable-on-hip-roofed Ranch has two sections. The left (west) section is two bays wide and the right (east) section is four-bays wide. The building has a brick veneer, interior brick chimney between the two sections, and weatherboards in the gables. It has two-over-two, horizontal-pane wood-sash windows with shorter windows on the left end of the building. The entrance, in the right section, is sheltered by a two-bay-wide inset porch that is supported by decorative metal posts. A one-story, flat-roofed brick wing extends from the rear of the building with double-hung windows. A modular unit has been attached to the left of this rear wing to provide additional office space. County tax records date the building to 1954 and the modular addition to 1997. It was constructed by Dr. Charles F. Scarborough as a clinic for this medical practice (Star STEP) and was sold to the Town of Star in 1992 for use as CNC Family Medicine.

135 Okeewemee-Star – Harold Robert Russell House – c. 1958

C – Building

This two-story, side-gabled, Colonial Revival-style house is three bays wide and double-pile. The house has a brick veneer on the façade and side elevations, siding on the rear elevation, exterior brick chimneys in the gables, and two-over-two, horizontal-pane wood-sash windows throughout, sometimes grouped. The six-panel door has four-light-over-one-panel sidelights and a classical surround with broken pediment. It is sheltered by a two-story, front-gabled portico supported by paired columns with a fanlight in the pediment. A one-story, side-gabled porch on the left (east) elevation is supported by decorative metal posts. A one-story wing on the right (west) elevation has an inset porch on the façade that is supported by decorative metal posts. The right wing connects to a front-gabled garage with a carport at the rear supported by decorative metal posts. A one-story, hip-roofed section extends across the rear elevation. The house is uniquely sited, set back from the road with a pond in front of the house to reflect the façade. The house was built by Clyde Kern, but Kern never lived in it (Star STEP). Harold Robert Russell purchased the house in 1960.

Owens Street

103 Owens – W. L. McCollum House – c. 1908

C – Building

This one-story, triple-A-roofed house is three bays wide and single-pile. It has vinyl siding, four-over-four wood-sash windows, and a pressed metal tile roof. The one-light-over-four-panel door is sheltered by a hip-roofed porch that extends across most of the façade and wraps around the right (west) elevation. It is supported by turned posts with decorative brackets. There is an interior brick chimney, a gabled ell at the left rear (southeast) with an exterior brick chimney, and a one-story, hip-roofed enclosed porch on the east elevation with a 5V metal roof and small windows. In 1908, W. L. McCollum, an early manager for the Durham and Charlotte Railroad, acquired 4/5 ownership of the land and likely constructed the house soon after. By 1926, the Norfolk Southern Railroad deeded the remaining 1/5 interest to McCollum (Currie/Hicks).

C-Building – Shed, c. 1940 – One-story, front-gabled shed with board-and-batten sheathing, an asphalt-shingled roof, and a small window on the north elevation.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 24Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina**119 Owens – G. R. Bonkemeyer House – c. 1909****C – Building**

This one-story, truncated-hip-roofed, Transitional Queen Anne-style house is three bays wide and double-pile with a projecting, front-gabled bay on the right (east) end of the façade. The house has a brick foundation, weatherboards, three interior brick chimneys, and a standing seam metal roof. It has one-over-one wood-sash windows and a pair of windows with a blind fanlight in the front-gabled dormer on the left end of the façade. The replacement door is sheltered by a hip-roofed porch that extends across the façade and wraps around the right and left elevations termination at projecting gabled bays on each elevation. The porch is supported by slender columns on brick piers. There is a one-story gabled ell at the right rear (southeast). In 1909, G. R. Bonkemeyer, a Durham and Charlotte Railroad employee who also ran commercial stores in town, acquired 4/5 ownership of the land from the railroad and likely constructed the house soon after. By 1926, the Norfolk Southern Railroad deeded the remaining 1/5 interest to Bonkemeyer (Currie/Hicks).

134 Owens – Dr. John Burney Shamburger House – c. 1912**C – Building**

This two-story, side-gabled Queen Anne-style house is three bays wide and single-pile with a two-story, projecting front-gabled entrance bay centered on the façade and a canted bay on the left (west) elevation. The house has a brick foundation, weatherboards, and an asphalt-shingled roof with two corbelled brick chimneys at the rear of the main section. The house retains four-over-four windows on the first floor, but has replacement vinyl windows on the second floor. The one-light-over-three-panel door is sheltered by a hip-roofed porch that extends the full width of the facade and wraps around the right and left elevations. It is supported by turned posts, original turned balusters, and sawn brackets. Decorative brackets at the roofline and a truss in the front gable have been removed since 1985. A two-story gabled ell extends from the right rear and from that a two-story gabled wing extends to the right (east) with an exterior corbelled brick chimney in the right gable end. A one-story, wing projects from the left elevation of the two-story rear ell and has a single door flanked by four-over-four windows on the left gable end; it served as a doctor's office. Several later one-story additions are at the rear of the ell. J. B. Shamburger, a doctor, acquired the property in 1911 and likely constructed the house soon after (Currie/Hicks).

C-Building – Flower House, c. 1912 – One-story, shed-roofed, frame flower house is recessed slightly into the ground and has weatherboards and a single five-panel door flanked by four-over-four windows on the north elevation.

C-Building – Shed, c. 1912 – One-story, front-gabled frame shed with weatherboards, a 5V metal roof, and an uncovered shed-roofed section on the north elevation.

NC-Building – Playhouse, c. 1990 – One-story, front-gabled, frame playhouse with plywood sheathing, a batten door flanked by windows, and an engaged porch supported by square posts with brackets.

NC-Building – Shed, c. 1990 – One-story, shed-roofed, frame shed with plywood sheathing and a 5V metal roof.

135 Owens – Lassiter House – c. 1920**NC – Building**

This one-story, side-gabled house is five bays wide and single-pile with an off-centered front gable over the entrance. The building has vinyl siding and windows, and interior brick chimney, and a 5V metal roof. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 25Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

replacement door is sheltered by a full-width, engaged, shed-roofed porch supported by square posts. The house has been altered with the enclosure of the right (west) and left (east) bays of the porch. A full-width, shed-roofed section extends across the rear and there is a gabled ell at the right rear (southeast). County tax records date the house to 1920. The earliest known occupant is the Lassiter family (Star STEP).

C-Building – Shed, c. 1920 – One-story, front-gabled frame shed with weatherboards, a batten door, metal roof, and open, shed-roofed bays on the east and west elevations.

NC-Building – Shed, c. 1990 – One-story, front-gabled, frame shed with vinyl siding, a concrete-block chimney on the east elevation, a 5V metal roof and an attached, shed-roofed carport on the north elevation supported by square posts.

145 Owens – Stan McKenzie House – c. 1925**C – Building**

This one-story, hip-roofed Transitional Queen Anne-style house is three bays wide and double-pile with a projecting front-gabled bay on the left (east) end of the façade and a hip-roofed front dormer. The house has a brick pier-and-curtain wall foundation, vinyl siding, one-over-one wood-sash windows, an interior brick chimney, an interior concrete-block chimney, and a pressed-tin roof. The front door is sheltered by a hip-roofed porch that extends across the façade and the projecting front-gabled bay. It is supported by tapered wood posts on brick piers and has a combination 5V metal and pressed-tin roof. There is a one-story, shed-roofed wing at the rear with an interior brick chimney. County tax records date the house to 1925 and according to the current resident, the original owner was a cooper for the Norfolk Southern Railroad. The earliest known occupant is Stan McKenzie (Star STEP).

153 Owens – Carl Stout House – c. 1918**C – Building**

This two-story, hip-roofed house is three bays wide and double-pile with a two-story, front-gabled projecting wing on the left (east) end of the façade. The house has a brick pier-and-curtain wall foundation, vinyl siding, and a pressed-tin roof with interior corbelled brick chimney. It has one-over-one wood-sash windows throughout and the front door is sheltered by a two-bay-wide, hip-roofed porch supported by square posts. There is a two-story gabled ell at the right rear (southwest) and a one-story, hip-roofed projecting bay on the right elevation. There are two, one-story additions at the left rear. County tax records date the house to 1918. The earliest known occupant is Carl Stout (Star STEP).

161 Owens – Sam Dunn House – c. 1907**C – Building**

This one-story, hip-roofed Queen Anne-style house is three bays wide and double-pile with a small, hip-roofed front dormer. The house has a brick pier-and-curtain wall foundation, German-profile weatherboards, and a 5V metal roof with an interior corbelled brick chimney. It has replacement windows throughout and the replacement front door is sheltered by a hip-roofed porch supported by slender columns with a 5V metal roof and a replacement railing. The front dormer has a single window and is covered with wood shingles. There is a one-story, gabled wing at the rear with a partially enclosed porch on its right (west) elevation and a modern deck to its left (east). County tax records date the building to 1907. The earliest known occupant is Sam Dunn (Star STEP).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 26Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

C-Building – Garage, c. 1920 – One-story, front-gabled, frame garage with German-profile weatherboards, batten doors, and a 5V metal roof with exposed rafter tails.

North Railroad Street**Asheboro and Montgomery Railroad Right-of-Way, Railroad Street – 1896** **C – Structure**

The one-hundred-foot wide railroad right-of-way consists of one lane of track running north-south along the east side of Railroad Street. There are at-grade crossings at East College Street, just north of the district, and at West Bank Street, Hotel Street, Harper Street, and Okeewemee-Star Road within the district. It was constructed by the Asheboro and Montgomery Railroad, but is currently part of the Aberdeen and Carolina Western Railroad.

201 N. Railroad – J. L. Cochran House – c. 1911**C – Building**

This large one-and-a-half-story Craftsman-style bungalow is three bays wide and triple-pile with wide, shed-roofed dormers on the façade and rear elevation. The building has a brick foundation, German-profile weatherboards, six-over-one wood-sash windows, two interior brick chimneys, and an asphalt-shingled roof with exposed rafter tails and knee brackets in the gables. The four-panel door has a four-light transom and three-light-over-one-panel sidelights. It is sheltered by a full-width engaged porch supported by grouped columns on brick piers. The right (north) end of the porch wraps around the right elevation and has been temporarily enclosed with plywood. There are paired three-over-one windows in the shed-roofed dormers and a one-story, shed-roofed bay on the left (south) elevation has a pair of six-over-one windows. An engaged porch at the left rear (southwest) has been enclosed. The house is in poor condition with many window openings boarded up. In 1910, the land was owned by George Wright, an early manager for the Aberdeen and Asheboro Railroad. However, J. L. Cochran acquired the property in 1911 and likely constructed the house soon after. It is thought to have been constructed by builders J. S. Lewis and J. A. Spence (Currie/Hicks).

211 N. Railroad – William L. James House – c. 1911**C – Building**

This one-and-a-half-story, T-plan house is five bays wide and single-pile with a projecting, three-bay-wide, front-gabled section centered on the façade. The house has a brick foundation, weatherboards, one-over-one wood-sash windows, and an interior brick chimney at the intersection of the main ridgeline and the front gabled section. The one-light-over-three-panel door is sheltered by a shed-roofed porch that extends around all three sides of the front-gabled section and is supported by slender columns. There are paired windows in the front gable and single windows in each of the side gables. In 1910, the land was owned by George Wright, an early manager for the Aberdeen and Asheboro Railroad. William L. James acquired the property with the home in 1911 and likely constructed the home soon after (Currie/Hicks). The James family owned the property until it was sold by the heirs in 1997 (MGRD).

215 N. Railroad – W. F. Harper House – c. 1912, c. 1954**C – Building**

This two-story, side-gabled house is three bays wide and single-pile. It has a brick foundation, asbestos siding, a metal roof, and an exterior brick chimney in the left (south) gable end. The house has four-over-four

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 27Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

wood-sash windows including three second-floor windows centered beneath a front gable. The one-light-over-three-panel door is sheltered by a full-width, hip-roofed porch supported by square posts. The porch extends around the right (north) elevation. A modern, one-story brick wing extends from the rear of the right elevation and connects to a hip-roofed section. This brick wing has jalousie windows, and an enclosed sunroom on the front (east) of the hip-roofed section. A carport with corrugated plastic roof on square posts is attached to the left elevation of the hip-roofed section. W. F. Harper, early Norfolk Southern Railroad engineer and stationmaster, and his wife Lillie acquired the property in 1912 and likely constructed the house at that time (Currie/Hicks). The Harpers sold the property in 1920 and it changed hands several times before being purchased in 1954 by Irene Brewer, who operated a beauty shop in the wing on the north side of the house (MCRD, Star STEP).

VACANT LOT – between 215 and 231 N. Railroad**231 N. Railroad – A. J. Cochran House – c. 1916****C – Building**

This one-story, side-gabled house is four bays wide and single-pile with a one-bay-wide, front-gabled wing on the left (south) elevation. The house has a brick pier foundation, asbestos siding, and original four-light windows in the gables. A picture window on the front of the front-gabled section is flanked by eight-light casement windows. Later picture windows have been installed on each end of the façade and most other window openings have been boarded up. A six-light-over-three-panel door and a boarded-up entrance are sheltered by a front-gabled porch supported by square posts. A gabled ell extends from the right rear (northwest) and a side-gabled wing on its right (north) elevation has an entrance with a front-gabled porch supported by square posts. The property changed hands several times between 1915 and 1916. A. J. Cochran acquired the property in 1916 from builders J. S. Lewis and J. A. Spence who may have erected the building (Currie/Hicks).

C-Building – Shed, c. 1940 – One-story, front-gabled, frame shed with board-and-batten sheathing and a metal roof.

251 N. Railroad – Thomas Anderson and Florence Saunders House – c. 1939, c. 1990**C – Building**

This one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled, Craftsman-style bungalow is four bays wide and double-pile with a wide, front-gabled dormer centered on the façade. The building has a brick foundation and brick veneer with stucco in the gables and on the gabled dormers. It has three-over-one, Craftsman-style windows, generally paired, with concrete sills. Windows in the gables and dormers are one-over-one windows. The fifteen-light French door is sheltered by an inset porch that extends the full width of the façade and wraps around the left (south) elevation. It is supported by tapered wood posts on brick piers. There is an exterior brick chimney on the right (north) elevation and a one-story, shed-roofed projecting bay at the rear of the right elevation. A c. 1990 addition at the rear (west) connected an existing washhouse and smokehouse to the main structure (Star STEP). The house was constructed by Kern Construction, around 1939 (Currie/Hicks) for Thomas Anderson Saunders,

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 28Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

a Norfolk Southern Railroad section foreman, and his wife Florence.⁷ An earlier house at the rear of the property was built c. 1904 for Labon and Emily Williamson.

NC-Building – Garage, c. 1990 – Front-gabled, frame garage just beyond the rear ell.

C-Building – Shed, c. 1940 – One-story, front-gabled, frame shed with German-profile weatherboards and two batten doors on the east elevation.

251 N. Railroad – Labon and Emily Williamson House – c. 1904**C – Building**

The one-story, side-gabled house is three bays wide and single pile. It has German-profile weatherboards, a 5V metal roof, and four-light windows in the gables. A full-width, shed-roofed porch extends across the south elevation and is supported by turned posts. The middle bay of the porch has been enclosed and has a three-over-one window. The property was purchased in 1904 by Labon and Emily Williamson and the house was likely constructed soon after (Currie/Hicks). Labon Williamson was a contractor for the railroad and Emily Williamson was a practical nurse and midwife.⁸ Their daughter Florence married Thomas Anderson Saunders who had the bungalow near the front (east) end of the property erected.

261 N. Railroad – Dr. Edward F. Green and Hubert N. Green House – c. 1911**C – Building**

This impressive, two-story house is notable for the two-story porch that extends the full width of the façade and wraps around the right (north) elevation. The side-gabled house is three bays wide and double-pile with gabled dormers on the façade and rear elevation. The building has a brick foundation, exterior brick chimneys in the gable ends, and brick at the corners of the building with vinyl siding on the main wall surfaces. It has one-over-one wood-sash windows with wide windows on the first-floor façade with a larger lower sash than upper sash. There are three-light windows in the dormers and four-light windows flanking the chimneys in the gables. The one-light-over-one-panel door has one-light sidelights. The two-story, shed-roofed porch is supported by square columns on paneled wood piers on the first floor and full-height square columns on the second floor. The right bay of the second-floor porch has been enclosed with six-over-six wood-sash windows on a vinyl-sided kneewall. There is a one-story, projecting bay on the left (south) elevation and a one-story section along the rear (west) elevation with an open porch beyond. Hubert N. Green and Dr. Edward F. Green, Ph.D. acquired the property in 1911 and likely constructed the house soon after (Currie/Hicks). Dr. Green was the headmaster of the Country Life Academy.

NC-Building – Studio/Shed, c. 1920, c. 2000 – One-story, hip-roofed frame structure with brick corners, weatherboards, a three-light-over-three-panel door, and six-over-six wood-sash windows. A shed-roofed porch extends along the east elevation supported by square posts with diagonal bracing. A c. 2000 large, side-gabled open shed is attached to the right (north) end of the studio building. It is roughly twice the size of the studio building with a higher roofline. It has wood framing, a tile roof, and an enclosed, shed-roofed section on the east elevation, adjoining the porch of the studio. Several modern barrel-vaulted brick kilns are located under the shed and to its north.

⁷ Lassiter, pg 155.

⁸ Lassiter, pg 263.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 29Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina**South Railroad Street****S. Railroad at W. Bank Street – George N. and Lillie L. Scarboro House – c. 1908 C – Building**

This impressive Queen Anne-style house is one of the most decorative homes in the district. The one-and-a-half-story side-gabled house is three bays wide and single-pile with a double-pile, hip-roofed projecting wing on the right (north). The house has a brick foundation, weatherboards, and two interior brick chimneys. It has steeply-pitched gables throughout, including two narrow gabled dormers on the façade, all with decorative sawn weatherboards, bargeboards, and trusses. The house has a combination of four-over-four wood-sash windows and decorative eight-over-eight windows. The decorative thirteen-light-over-one-panel door has seven-light-over-one-panel sidelights. There is evidence of a porch roof across the left (south) two bays of the façade that has since been removed. There is a canted bay at the first-floor of the projecting north-side section and two steeply-pitched gables on its north elevation. Additional gables extend from the gabled rear wing and there is a low, hip-roofed section at the northwest corner that has grouped six-over-six windows. The building is in very poor condition. George N. Scarboro married Lillie Leach (daughter of Angus Leach). He acquired the property in 1908 and likely constructed the house soon after (Currie/Hicks). Scarboro was a Station Agent with the Aberdeen and Asheboro Railroad and was later the postmaster of Star.⁹ The first dedicated post office building was located just across the street at the southwest corner of South Main and West Bank Streets.

145 S. Railroad – Charles Lassiter House – c. 1917**C – Building**

This one-story, hip-roofed Craftsman-style house is three bays wide and double-pile. It has a brick foundation, asphalt-shingled siding, and an interior brick chimney. It has four-over-four wood-sash windows and the fifteen-light French door is sheltered by an inset porch at the front right (northeast) corner of the house that is supported by a slender column on a brick pier. The house has a wide fascia with molding and plain door and window surrounds. There is a hip-roofed ell at the right rear (northwest) and a small, hip-roofed enclosed porch to its south. County tax records date the building to 1917. The earliest known occupant is Charles Lassiter (Star STEP).

C-Building – Shed, c. 1917 – One-story, front-gabled frame shed with post foundation, weatherboards, and a single door on the east gable end.

307 S. Railroad – Pearl Harper House – c. 1922**C – Building**

This one-story, side-gabled, Craftsman-style bungalow is five bays wide and double-pile. It has a brick foundation, painted brick veneer on the first floor, and two interior brick chimneys. There are four-over-one Craftsman-style wood-sash windows on the first floor and vinyl siding, paired three-over-one windows, and knee brackets in each gable. The one-light-over-three-panel door is sheltered by a three-bay-wide, front-gabled porch supported by brick columns on brick piers with a replacement railing between the piers. An uncovered terrace extends from the right (north) end of the porch. County tax records date the building to 1922. The earliest known occupant is Pearl Harper (Star STEP).

⁹ Lassiter, pg 257.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 30Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

C-Building – Garage, c. 1922 – One-story, front-gabled frame garage with weatherboards, a metal roof, paired batten doors, and an open shed-roofed bay on the left (south) elevation.

315 S. Railroad – Ernest Morgan House – c. 1929**C – Building**

This one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled, Craftsman-style bungalow is three bays wide and triple-pile. It has a brick foundation, brick veneer, an interior brick chimney, and an exterior brick chimney on the right (north) elevation. It has six-over-one, Craftsman-style wood-sash windows and the nine-light Craftsman-style door is centered on the façade and sheltered by a full-width, front-gabled porch supported by squat tapered posts on high brick piers with a low brick knee wall between the piers. There is vinyl siding, paired windows, and decorative purlin tails in each gable. A one-story, shed-roofed bay projects from the right elevation and there is a rear shed-roofed porch supported by full-height brick piers. County tax records date the building to 1929. The earliest known occupant is Ernest Morgan (Star STEP).

C-Building – Shed, c. 1940 – One-story, front-gabled, frame shed with weatherboards, a metal roof, a batten door on the east elevation, and a small window on the north elevation.

C-Building – Garage, c. 1940 – One-story, front-gabled, frame garage with weatherboards, a metal roof, and two vehicle bays on the east elevation.

NC-Building – Shed, c. 1980 – One-story, asymmetrical front-gabled frame shed with plywood sheathing and a metal roof.

C-Building – Barn, c. 1940 – Two-story, side-gabled, frame barn with weatherboards, a metal roof, and an open metal shed-roofed bay on the south elevation. It has a pedestrian entrance on the east elevation and paired doors under the shed roof.

NC-Building – Accessory Dwelling – c. 1980 – One-story, front-gabled frame house has a concrete-block foundation, vinyl siding, a metal roof, and small sliding windows. The front-gabled roof projects to the east as a porch/carport supported by square posts with diagonal braces. The small house may be a converted farm building.

Stewart Street**103 Stewart – Dr. Hussey House – c. 1935****C – Building**

This one-story, side-gabled house is three bays wide and single-pile with a shed-roofed section extending the full width of the rear elevation. The house has asphalt sheathing, six-over-six wood-sash windows, an exterior brick chimney on the left (east) elevation, and an asphalt-shingled roof with exposed rafter tails. The modern six-panel door is sheltered by a small front-gabled porch supported by square posts. Beyond the shed-roofed section a shed-roofed porch at the rear has been enclosed with six-over-six wood-sash windows on the southeast corner and screens on the southwest. The house was built by Dr. Hussey who also erected the house at 403 South Main Street, though it is unclear whether Hussey ever lived here.

C-Building – Garage, c. 1935 – One-story, front-gabled frame garage with a brick foundation, plywood sheathing, and an asphalt-shingled roof with exposed rafter tails. It has two vehicular bays on the north elevation and one bay on the west elevation with batten doors.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 31

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

Section 8: Statement of Significance

Narrative Statement of Significance:

The Star Historic District meets National Register Criterion A for commerce and transportation. Developed at the intersection of the Durham and Charlotte Railroad and the Aberdeen and Asheboro Railroad, the town of Star served as a regional commercial center for eastern Montgomery County and western Moore County from its incorporation in 1897 to the mid-twentieth century. The railroad facilitated the logging and agricultural industries in and around Star. Beginning in 1911, the Country Life Academy brought nearby students to the town and by the 1930s, the textile industry in Star was attracting workers from nearby communities. The railroad, school, and mills fueled Star's growth by creating a demand for services, including stores, banks, barbers, and repair shops.

The Star Historic District also meets National Register Criterion C for architecture. The prosperity of the early twentieth century town is reflected in the presence of ornate turn-of-the-twentieth-century Queen Anne-style houses and Romanesque Revival-style commercial buildings; constructed from 1896 to 1915, they stand out among the most elaborate examples of residential and commercial architecture in Montgomery County. The architecture of Star also illustrates its place as a working-class town with modest, pyramidal-roofed housing constructed in the 1910s and 1920s and housing built in the nationally-popular Colonial Revival and Craftsman styles in the 1920s and 1930s. Also present in Star are an Art Deco-style bridge built in 1929, Colonial Revival churches from 1924 and 1953, and plainly detailed commercial buildings and Ranch-form houses erected in the 1940s and 1950s.

The Star Historic District encompasses portions of nineteen city blocks centered on Main and Railroad streets and includes much of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century town. The sixty-two primary contributing buildings consist of houses, churches, commercial buildings, and warehouses all erected during the period of significance from 1896 to 1963. The earliest contributing building constructed in the district is the Star Hotel (118 North Main Street), which was erected in 1896. Construction in Star continued as a steady pace into the 1950s with buildings constructed within the district boundary built as late as 1957. However, with the relocation of the textile factories to the outskirts of town and the construction of a consolidated high school in Biscoe, new residential and commercial construction in Star had halted by the early 1960s. The period after 1963 is not of exceptional significance, and therefore the period of significance ends at the fifty-year date.

Historic Context:

Early Development of Star

Montgomery County was formed in 1779 from the northern part of Anson County and was named for General Richard Montgomery, a distinguished officer of the American Revolutionary War, who died in 1775. The western border of the county is formed by the Pee Dee River while the Little River bisects the eastern part of the county, extending north to south between Star and Biscoe on the east and Troy near the center of the county. The earliest settlements occurred near the rivers with the Uwharrie Indians settling just west of Star, near the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 32Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

center of the county at a place they called Okeewemee which means “land between two rivers”.¹⁰ Like the Uwharrie Indians before them, the first white settlers in Montgomery County in the late 1700s and early 1800s located their farms near the Pee Dee and Little rivers. Navigating the rivers was difficult, so the earliest farms in Montgomery County were small, just large enough to provide food and fuel for running the homestead, and most no larger than fifty acres and little more than a clearing in the woods. Early towns were also small and the county seat changed several times in the early years before settling in Troy, west of Star, in 1846.

Around 1850, the land on which Star was developed was deeded by the State of North Carolina to Pleasant Simmons. Simmons, in turn, sold the land to Martin Hunsucker who set up a store on the property by 1858.¹¹ Local stores, like the Hunsucker Store, were lifelines for early settlers and farmers with “supplies of harness and leather items, calico and threads, wearing articles, farm equipment, fatback and canned goods.”¹² In these stores, farmers could exchange eggs and fryer chickens for coffee, sugar, and other supplies. In addition to providing supplies, the first post office in the area was established inside the Hunsucker Store on August 5, 1858.¹³ (Since mail was directed to Hunsucker Store, some sources note that Hunsucker Store was the first name of the town. However, the town was never officially called Hunsucker Store.) The post office was discontinued in 1866, but re-established within the Hunsucker Store in 1870.¹⁴ Angus Leach, of Moore County, moved to the area after the Civil War, married Hunsucker’s daughter Deborah, and operated a series of stores and other businesses with Hunsucker in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Leach served as postmaster beginning in 1886 and is said to have been instrumental in having the post office renamed Star in 1887.¹⁵ The town was incorporated in 1897.

The earliest residents in the Star area were farmers. In addition to Martin Hunsucker and Angus Leach, principal farmers and landowners at this time included John Allen, Jesse Freeman, M. Leach, Alsey Manness, William Smith, and John Stuart.¹⁶ While most farms were small and focused on the production of vegetables to sustain the farm, some also raised cash crops, predominantly, corn and tobacco. As early as 1890, Angus Leach operated corn and flour mills on the nearby Little River and Star residents sent their corn to Troy, Ether, and Howard’s Mill (north of Spies) for milling.¹⁷ Additionally, an annual report made to the State of North Carolina

¹⁰ Huntley, pg. 83.

¹¹ Lassiter, pg. 282.

¹² Lassiter, pg 31.

¹³ Lassiter, pg. 124.

¹⁴ Lassiter, pg. 124.

¹⁵ Lassiter, pg 124.

¹⁶ Lassiter, pg 282.

¹⁷ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee (Angela Bernard, Evelyn Callicutt, Katie Dunlap (Chair), Susan Eggleston (Mayor), Jane Hancock, Tom Hicks, Jerry O’Brien, Marilyn Phillips (Co-Chair), Bobby Russell, Judy Stevens, and Jean Stutts). Personal Interview with author. 7 January 2013.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 33

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

in 1897 lists a roller flour mill in Star owned by B. L. Allen, though it is unclear where it stood.¹⁸ Tobacco, popular throughout the Piedmont in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, was grown in the Star area and sent to markets in Dillon, South Carolina.¹⁹

Local businesses were established in Star in the mid- to late- nineteenth century to support the logging and farming industries and their workers, though commercial enterprises were limited until the arrival of the railroad. Wood-frame buildings in small towns like Star generally housed stores, wheelwrights and coopers, casketmakers, and livery stables.²⁰ Angus Leach himself launched a series of businesses that ranged from a general merchandise store, feed and fertilizer store, larger-scale farming operations, and even the construction of grist mills on the Little River.²¹ Businesses in Star in the first decade of the twentieth century included a corn mill, lumber mill, flour mill, barbershop, blacksmith, funeral home, and general store.

The Uwharrie National Forest covers much of the western and southern portions of Montgomery County and while the area near Star was not fully forested, the land did need to be cleared before it could be farmed, a practice which supported logging and related industries in and around Star. The sandhills of North Carolina were rich with pines and the long straight timbers were “used for spars, masts of sailing vessels, framing, vehicles, and...furniture”.²² Sawmills shot up throughout the county in late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, including the Star Lumber and Manufacturing Company, founded by J. B. Shamburger in February of 1906.

Relatedly, the sap that flowed from the trees was distilled into turpentine and resin, products that were generally shipped to the Cape Fear and used to seal ships. The c. 1914 Vaughn Building (100-block North Main Street) was constructed as a turpentine distillery. While the lumber, turpentine, and naval stores industries were not developed as fully in Star as they were in other parts of the county, they did contribute to the early economy of the town and region. Lassiter notes that, “It was lumber and byproducts of the pine forest that helped found the town of Candor [south of Star] and brought railroads into our county.”²³ The Uwharrie Mountains contained mines with small quantities of white quartz and gold, with mines concentrated along the Little River and in the more mountainous northwest corner of the county in operation from the mid-nineteenth century through the early twentieth century. While mining was never a commercial success in the area near Star, some farmers in the area did mine their properties to supplement their farming income.²⁴

¹⁸ Lassiter, pg 33.

¹⁹ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee

²⁰ Lassiter, pg 27.

²¹ Lassiter, pg 249.

²² Lassiter, pg 163.

²³ Lassiter, pg 164.

²⁴ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 34Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina**The Railroad in Star**

The earliest railroad lines constructed in eastern Montgomery County were built to serve the lumber industry. Lumber and other crops had previously been moved by ship, along the Pee Dee and Little rivers, but the rivers were turbulent and crossings were dangerous. Furthermore, dirt roads in the area were little more than trading paths that had been widened and were not of good condition. As early as 1882, the Page family, Aberdeen residents with lumber interests in Biscoe, south of Star, operated a line of the Aberdeen and West End Railroad, known as Page's Railroad, which ran from Aberdeen to Pinehurst.²⁵ The Page family also owned the Asheboro and Montgomery Railroad, which ran north to south, connecting Asheboro to Star by 1896.²⁶ In 1897, the Aberdeen and West End merged with the Asheboro and Montgomery lines to form the Aberdeen and Asheboro Railroad, which extended from Asheboro in the north, through Star, to Ellerbe and Aberdeen in the south.²⁷

In the late nineteenth century, a network of rail lines were being constructed to connect Charlotte with Durham and Raleigh. In 1896, the Durham and Charlotte Railroad obtained the Glendon and Gulf Manufacturing Railroad, which connected Glendon (in Chatham County) and Troy (in Moore county) and incorporated the line into its east-west route from Durham to Charlotte, laying a line through Star in 1896. By 1911, Lassiter notes that, the locomotive power of the Aberdeen and Asheboro Railroad had increased to eleven locomotives and Star had become the "Railroad Crossroads of Piedmont North Carolina" with "flocks of trainmen" staying at the Star Hotel (118 North Main Street).²⁸ That same year, Norfolk Southern Railway took possession of both the Aberdeen and Asheboro Railroad and the Durham and Charlotte Railroad and by 1914 a coal chute was constructed in Star to serve the Norfolk Southern railroad. Constructed with 400-ton capacity, it was the largest of any on the railroad line, and was originally equipped with steam-operated buckets, though when the chute burned in 1929, it was re-constructed with electric power.²⁹ With the construction of the coal chute, all engines that crossed the county on their way from Charlotte to Raleigh took coal and water from Star.³⁰ Around 1920, the current depot was constructed at 102 Depot Street near the intersection of the two rail lines. The frame building with a low-pitched hipped roof and flared eaves is similar to those constructed by Norfolk Southern Railway in nearby Candor and Mount Gilead in the early twentieth century.

Before the railroad, people in the Star area were relatively isolated. Thus, the arrival of the Asheboro and Montgomery Railroad and the Durham and Charlotte Railroad revolutionized industry and living conditions in Star, while solidifying its position in the county. "Almost overnight, the crossroads community changed its

²⁵ Lassiter, pg 156 and North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. Research and maps compiled regarding North Carolina Railroads.

²⁶ Lassiter, pg. 156.

²⁷ Lassiter, pg. 156 and North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. Research and maps compiled regarding North Carolina Railroads.

²⁸ Lassiter, pg. 158.

²⁹ Lassiter, pg. 158-159.

³⁰ Lassiter, pg. 158-159.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 35

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

tempo and welcomed many new settlers to the area.”³¹ While the earliest inhabitants were tied to farming and the logging industry, with the arrival of the railroad, the town mushroomed with many new residents affiliated with the railroad, including “trackmen...trainmen, depot agents and dispatchers, bridge builders, telephone crews, coal-chute operators and shopmen.”³²

Lassiter notes that, “the coming of the railroad to Montgomery County marked the beginning of an era that accelerated progress and new industries and enterprises – an upswing in lumbering, peach growing, banking, flour milling, and manufacturing.”³³ Frame structures were constructed in Star in the 1880s and 1890s, though only one remains within the district. Constructed in 1896, the Star Hotel (118 North Main Street) was built at the intersection of North Main and Depot Streets. The hotel was constructed in the Queen Anne style and accommodated travelers and railroad workers. Other late-nineteenth-century businesses, including two frame stores constructed by Angus Leach, are no longer extant.

Twentieth Century Commercial Development in Star

The town of Star changed dramatically in the first decades of the twentieth century with stores and businesses being established along Main Street and providing services necessary to sustain Star’s growing population. Phillips Funeral Home was established by Hayes Downing Phillips in 1907 and was one of a series of businesses on North Main Street that, according to an advertisement, sold “coffins, meat, and ice in season”.³⁴ In 1910, Angus Leach completed the Bank of Star (100-block North Main Street). The two-story, buff-brick building was the first brick commercial building to be constructed in Star and remains at the northeast corner of North Main and East streets, though the original north end of the building, which housed Leach’s store, has been removed. The c. 1911 Freeman Store Building (119 South Main Street) and the c. 1915 Bonkemeyer Store Building (121 South Main Street) illustrate the need for retail establishments in the growing town and their elaborate brick facades that speak to the prosperity of Star during this period.

In addition to stores, new businesses were established throughout the town, some of them directly tied to the railroad. Raleigh Nall, known as the “most efficient ‘watch man’ on the Norfolk Southern,” established a watch shop in Star and by 1938 had constructed a new building (222 South Main Street) where he sold and serviced timepieces.³⁵ Nall’s precision with the intricate mechanisms of watches and clocks led to a second business in sewing machine repair (209 South Main Street) constructed in 1947. Most businesses and buildings, however, were created to serve the community at large without direct connection to the railroad. The c. 1915 Allen Building (108-112 South Main Street) housed a café and dentist office on the first floor with apartments above. Barnie B. Monroe, who operated a barber shop in Star as early as 1912,³⁶ constructed the Star Barber Shop (103-

³¹ Lassiter, pg 282.

³² Lassiter, pg. 157.

³³ Lassiter, pg 155.

³⁴ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

³⁵ Lassiter, pg. 284.

³⁶ Lassiter, pg. 284.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 36

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

105 South Main Street), a one-story, brick commercial building, around 1919. R. L. E. McIntosh constructed a two-story brick commercial building around 1916 to house his hardware and general store (100-102 South Main Street), which remained in business until the 1960s.

Education and the Textile Industry in Star

While the railroad brought permanent residents to Star, in the early and mid-twentieth century, the Carolina Collegiate Agricultural Institute (later the Country Life Academy) and the textile mills brought students and workers to Star, bolstering its commercial development through the mid-twentieth century. Star's earliest school was the Star Academy, constructed around 1888 next to the present-day US Highway 220-Alternate, the frame structure had a wraparound porch and an upper floor held the Masonic Lodge; the building burned in 1968. While the Star Academy served the students of Star, the County Life Academy attracted students from a broader geographic area.

Begun in 1911 as the Carolina Collegiate Agricultural Institute, the school was chartered by the State of North Carolina as a project of the Congregational Church and served as a college preparatory school for high school students.³⁷ Led by Dr. Edward F. Green, from England, who lived adjacent to the school (at 261 North Railroad Street), the school stood just north of the district at the northwest corner of North Railroad and West College streets. The campus included a two-story brick educational building as well as "a large wooden dormitory, maintenance shops, small dwellings for students and a sprawling farm with fields and cattle pastureland" and in the early twentieth century, it grew to become "one of the best preparatory schools in the area with an extensive library."³⁸ The school flourished, drawing students from surrounding towns, and in 1920 its name was changed to the Country Life Academy.

However, with the establishment of more standardized educational systems in the state, the consolidation of rural schools, and the completion of the Star High School in 1924, the Country Life Academy closed its doors during the Great Depression. The Star High School, however, remained open until 1961, attracting students and their families from the surrounding rural area to the town for the purpose of education and extra-curricular activities, including Friday night basketball games. The Star School, in existence as early as the 1920s, served kindergarten through eighth grade students. However, by 1979 Star's middle school students were attending classes in Candor and Brutonville and a new consolidated county middle school was completed in the early 1980s.³⁹ Thus, since 1979, the Star School (now the Star Elementary School), just south of the district on South Main Street is the only remaining school in the town.

In the 1930s, the textile industry, common in much of the Piedmont, was introduced to Star. As early as 1931, Clay Vance Richardson purchased seven knitting machines and installed them in the rear of his furniture store

³⁷ Lassiter, pg. 96.

³⁸ Lassiter, pg. 96.

³⁹ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 37

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

on Main Street (222 South Main Street). Soon he was producing men's dress socks and by 1938 he moved the business into the Vaughn Building (100-block North Main Street), a former turpentine distillery, renaming the business The Clayson Knitting Company.⁴⁰ As business continued to grow, he added a third floor to the structure in 1953 and then doubled the size of the building with a large two-story addition on the north end of the building in 1962. However, by 1965 the company had outgrown the additions and began construction on a new building outside of town, abandoning the building downtown, which was then used by Lancer, Inc., manufacturers of wood frames for upholstered furniture. While located outside of the central business district in Star, the Clayson Knitting Company continued to grow and by 1976, was employing 550 people.⁴¹

The Pine Hosiery Mills, Inc. was started by Bruce M. Jenkins Sr. in 1933 and named for the abundant pine trees in the area. The company occupied a building on South Main Street, just south of the early-nineteenth-century Freeman Store Building (119 South Main Street) and Bonkemeyer Store Building (121 South Main Street). The Pine Hosiery Mills, Inc. grew through mid-century and by 1976, the company employed 200 people in it manufacture of socks, hosiery, and shirts.⁴² When the original factory was destroyed by fire on October 25, 1987, a new brick building was constructed on the original site (133 South Main Street) and adjoined on the interior to the neighboring Bonkemeyer Store Building (121 South Main Street).

In 1941, the Russell Hosiery Mill, having outgrown their Candor location, moved into the former Country Life Academy building in Star, just north of the district. In 1942, the company employed 75 people, despite the fact that materials were scarce because of the war.⁴³ The building was expanded in 1948 with a third floor added to the building.⁴⁴ By 1966, Russell Hosiery Mill was sold to Fruit-of-the-Loom, though operations remained in Star with a large expansion to the mill in 1969 and as many as 700 workers employed there in 1976.⁴⁵ The company was later sold to the Renfro Mill, which employed 800 full-time workers before moving their operations to South America.⁴⁶ Smaller mills also operated within Star. In 1947, the Newsome Hosiery Mill opened in Star to manufacture mens', boys', and girls' anklets, though the business never employed more than about forty people at a time.⁴⁷

With so many people working in the mills, local businesses in Star thrived with construction of new buildings in downtown Star continuing through the 1950s and as many as seven grocery stores open in Star at one point.⁴⁸ New commercial buildings, like the c. 1948 Kinlaw Building (144 South Main Street) were constructed with

⁴⁰ Huntley, pg. 504.

⁴¹ Lassiter, pg. 357.

⁴² Lassiter, pg. 367.

⁴³ Lassiter, pg. 368.

⁴⁴ Huntley, pg. 94.

⁴⁵ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

⁴⁶ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

⁴⁷ Lassiter, pg. 357.

⁴⁸ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 38

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

little architectural detail and were flexible enough to hold a variety of retail purposes in the mid- to late-twentieth century, including a dry cleaners, jewelry store, dress shop, sundry shop, stationary store, and office supply store.⁴⁹ The c. 1946 Pontiac Dealership (124 South Main Street) illustrates a shift toward automobile transportation that occurred nationwide in the 1940s and 1950s. The dealership included a Sinclair Gas Station, which serviced not only Star residents, but workers coming to Star's textile mills and travelers moving down present-day US Highway 220-Alternate (which became Main Street as it passed through Star). The first post office, outside of the Hunsucker Store, stood at the southeast corner of South Main and East Bank streets. A new post office was constructed around 1950 at 202 South Main Street.

The Late Twentieth Century in Star

Development and building construction in Star had slowed, and nearly ceased entirely, by the early 1960s. The construction of a consolidated school in Biscoe in 1961, the completion of the new US Highway 220 in 1980, the sale of the railroad lines by Norfolk Southern in 1982, and the decline of the textile industry beginning in the 1990s have gradually diverted students, travelers, and mill workers away from downtown Star. New construction within the district ceased and Star's local small businesses dwindled in the second half of the twentieth century.

In 1961, East Montgomery and West Montgomery High Schools were completed in Biscoe and Mount Gilead respectively, with a fleet of buses transporting students from throughout the county to these two schools.⁵⁰ East Montgomery High merged the previous high schools in Biscoe, Candor, and Star with all of the students now being bussed to Biscoe. While Star retained elementary and middle schools until 1979, now only Star Elementary School remains within the town.

By 1980, the new US Highway 220 opened east of town, simultaneously diverting thru traffic away from downtown Star and making it easier for Montgomery County, including Star, residents to shop in Greensboro and Asheboro instead of their local markets. The bypass eventually became Interstate 73-74, further reducing traffic through the town for people on their way to the South Carolina beaches, the Rockingham Motor Speedway, and the Darlington Racetrack.⁵¹

From the 1940s through the 1980s, the economy of Star relied on the textile mills. At one point, there were as many as seven textile mills in Star and in 1980, those mills provided 2.5 jobs per capita.⁵² However, the mills were crippled by the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement and the 2004 Central America Free Trade Agreement with the last remaining mill, the Clayson Knitting Company, closing in 2008. The town is now known primarily as the geographic center of North Carolina and a United States Post Office "Christmas Town",

⁴⁹ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

⁵⁰ Lassiter, pg. 115.

⁵¹ Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

⁵² Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 39Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

as host of one of the longest running fiddlers' convention in the state and an annual Christmas parade, and as the home of STARwork, a creative entity joining industry and the arts.⁵³

Architectural Context:

The Star Historic District contains a variety of architectural forms and styles illustrating more than sixty years of continuous development in the town. The earliest buildings and most ornate residences in the district were constructed in the Queen Anne, popular nationwide at the turn of the twentieth century, while the first commercial buildings were built in the Romanesque Revival-style. These high-style structures gave way to smaller-scaled and less detailed homes and commercial buildings by the 1910s and 1920s, though many retained Queen Anne- and Romanesque Revival-style details. By the 1920s, the Craftsman and Colonial Revival styles had risen in popularity with elements of both styles remaining in use for residential and religious architecture until World War II. Streamlined forms and modern details were applied to homes and commercial buildings alike by the 1940s and 1950s. Star's location on the railroad line connected the small town to Durham, Charlotte, and other urban areas, exposing its riders to popular architectural styles, but also connected Star physically to sawmills, brickyards, and other manufacturers of mass-produced building materials. The prominence of the railroad as a driving social and economic force in the town is also evident by the fact that the earliest buildings bear a direct physical connection to the railroad with residences facing the railroad tracks and early commercial buildings centered on Main Street near the intersection of the two rail lines.

The earliest commercial development in Star includes several highly decorative, brick structures in a localized interpretation of the Romanesque Revival style, which included elements of the Italianate and other Victorian-era styles. The c. 1910 Bank of Star (100-block North Main Street) features the repetitive round arches and rusticated pilasters and quoins common in Romanesque-style commercial architecture. However, the intricately-corbelled brick cornice, projecting brick hoods over the windows, and prominent pilasters, which emphasize the verticality of the building, are features more common in Italianate-style commercial structures. The adjoining c. 1911 Freeman Store Building (119 South Main Street) and c. 1915 Bonkemeyer Store Building (121 South Main Street) both feature ornate brick facades with brick pilasters between the bays, arched window openings with projecting arched hoods on the second floor, and detailed brick corbelling on the parapet. Both buildings have large display windows sheltered by Italianate-style pent roofs on sawn brackets. The right side (north) elevation of the Freeman Store, facing Hotel Street, features double-leaf doors with matching sidelights and a three-part leaded-glass transom all within a wide arched opening with projecting arched hood, an entrance treatment common in Romanesque Revival-style architecture.

With the rapid growth of the town from the 1910s through the 1930s, commercial buildings were generally erected with fewer decorative details than the high-style structures of the 1890s through the early 1910s. While several structures mimicked specific architectural elements of the earlier Freeman Store Building (119 South Main Street) and Bonkemeyer Store Building (121 South Main Street), most commercial buildings constructed

⁵³ Richter, pg. 20 and Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 40

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

after the start of World War I are plainly-detailed one- or two-story brick commercial buildings. The c. 1916 McIntosh Hardware Store (100-102 South Main Street) and the c. 1924 Auman Building I (138-140 South Main Street) each have two original storefronts with recessed entrances and three-part transoms. Their parapet roofs are unadorned and brick soldier-course headers on the McIntosh Hardware Store are the only brick details on either building. The c. 1919 Shamburger-Monroe Building (107-109 South Main Street) retains the second-floor arched window openings, a corbelled parapet, and brick pilasters all seen on earlier commercial structures. It also has double-leaf entrances flanked by display windows and sheltered by pent roofs supported by Italianate-style brackets. The only example of the Art Deco style in the district, the 1929 Overhead Bridge (North Main Street) is more modern in design than the commercial buildings of the period. It has concrete posts with blind arches flanking the concrete balustrade and has stepped concrete piers at the corners.

By the 1940s and 1950s the commercial architecture of Star tended toward clean lines and undecorated surfaces, though the buildings were not overtly modern in their design. The c. 1946 Pontiac Dealership (124 South Main Street) is representative of the architecture popular in the automobile era after World War II. The brick building is set back from the sidewalk and features a stepped parapet defining the different bays, wide overhead garage doors, and a projecting front-gabled canopy that originally sheltered gas pumps. The c. 1950 United States Post Office (202 South Main Street) features a symmetrical façade with a picture window centered on the façade, a feature common in residential architecture of the period. The picture window is flanked by paired, metal-frame casement windows with fixed-light transoms. One-light-over-two-panel doors on each end of the façade are more traditional than modern in design with single-light fixed transoms.

The earliest residential structures in the district were constructed in the Queen Anne style. Used predominantly in residential architecture, the style is characterized by asymmetrical forms with projecting gables and an abundance of applied ornamentation, including notched weatherboards and decorative wood shingles, turned posts, balusters, and spindles, and decorative door and wood window surrounds. The best example of the style in Star is the 1896 Star Hotel (118 North Main Street) with an irregular form featuring canted bays and a one-story, wraparound porch. The hotel has decorative woodwork that includes imbricated shingles in the gables, a turned railing at the truncated roofline, and turned porch supports with decorative brackets and a spindle frieze. Smaller, but impressively detailed, the c. 1908 Scarboro House (100-block South Railroad Street) features multiple steeply-pitched gables throughout and two gabled dormers on the façade, all with decorative sawn weatherboards, bargeboards, and exposed trusses in the gables. There is a canted bay on the right end of the façade, but an original wraparound porch has been removed.

While Star is distinctive for these impressive examples of Queen Anne-style and Victorian-era architecture, such full expressions of the styles were less common than the application of Queen Anne-style elements to more modest homes. The c. 1908 W. L. McCollum House (103 Owens Street) has a triple-A-roofed form with a distinctive pressed metal tile roof and hip-roofed wraparound porch that is supported by turned posts with decorative brackets. The façade of the c. 1912 John Burney Shamburger House (134 Owens Street) is dominated

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 41

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

by a projecting front-gabled entrance bay. There is a canted bay on the left elevation and the full-width, wraparound porch is supported by turned posts with an original turned railing and sawn brackets.

While early twentieth century house forms and styles varied greatly in Star, a trend toward pyramidal-roofed houses is evident along Owens Street. Their proximity to the railroad tracks and early ownership by Norfolk Southern Railroad, indicates that they may have been constructed by the railroad for their workers. The one-story homes retain different levels of architectural detail, generally Queen Anne- or Craftsman-style elements. The c. 1909 G. R. Bonkemeyer House (119 Owens Street) has a high, truncated-hipped roof with multiple projecting dormers and a projecting, front-gabled bay on the right end of the façade. The hip-roofed, wraparound porch is supported by Craftsman-style wood columns on brick piers. Similarly, the c. 1925 Stan McKenzie House (145 Owens Street) features the massing of a Queen Anne-style house with its pyramidal roof and projecting front-gabled bay, but the full-width porch is supported by tapered wood posts on brick piers, a feature more common in Craftsman-style houses.

The Craftsman style, which gained national popularity in the 1920s and 1930s, was most often applied to the one- or one-and-a-half-story bungalow form and emphasized a simplicity that focused on the materials and the structure itself, often employing stone and brick as decorative details and retaining exposed eaves and structural supports. An early example of the style in Star, the one-and-a-half-story c. 1906 Leach-Allen House (103 Cemetery Street) features irregular massing more closely related to the Queen Anne style, but Craftsman-style windows and porch posts that illustrate the transition between the two styles. The wraparound porch on the left end of the façade is supported by squat, tapered wood posts on tall brick piers. Another early example, the c. 1911 J. L. Cochran House (201 North Railroad Street) is more overtly Craftsman with a massive one-and-a-half-story bungalow form with wide, shed-roofed dormers on the façade and rear elevation, a projecting shed-roofed bay on the left elevation, and a full-width engaged porch supported by grouped columns on brick piers.

Typical of the Craftsman style, the c. 1929 Ernest Morgan House (315 South Railroad Street) has six-over-one, Craftsman-style wood-sash windows, a nine-light Craftsman-style door, a full-width, front-gabled porch supported by squat tapered posts on high brick piers, and decorative purlin tails in the gables. The c. 1930 Seward House (100 Harper Street) features Craftsman-style elements applied to a large one-and-a-half-story, side-gabled bungalow form. The house has eight-over-one Craftsman-style wood-sash windows, exposed rafter tails, knee brackets in the gables, and an engaged porch supported by square brick columns on brick piers and an attached porte-cochere. The c. 1939 Thomas Anderson and Florence Saunders House (251 North Railroad Street) is a late example of the style with stuccoed gables, paired three-over-one Craftsman-style windows, and a wraparound porch on post-on-pier supports.

Elements of the Colonial Revival style are present on the c. 1911 Green House (261 North Railroad Street) with a notable two-story porch that extends the full width of the façade and wraps around the right elevation as well as a canted bay on the left elevation and large windows on the first-floor façade.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 42Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

Part of an eclectic phase of residential architecture that took inspiration from the American 1876 and 1893 expositions, the Colonial Revival style featured symmetrical facades, generally applied to a side-gabled form, and classical detailing on the entrances and porches.⁵⁴ The Colonial Revival style was not widely used in Star, though elements of the style appear on residences from the 1920s through the 1930s and it was a popular choices for churches in Star and throughout the country. An early example of the style is the c. 1911 Dr. Edward F. Green and Hubert N. Green House (261 North Railroad Street), which features a two-story porch that extends the full width of the symmetrical façade. The best example of the style is the c. 1922 J. B. Simmons House (101 Harper Street) with its symmetrical, two-story, side-gabled form with one-story porch and porte-cochere flanking the main form. The entrance is sheltered by a small, hip-roofed porch supported by full-height brick piers. Several Period Cottages constructed along South Main Street illustrate the application of Colonial Revival-style details to homes with a smaller footprint. The c. 1938 Nat Allan House (416 South Main Street) has a brick veneer, a projecting bay on the left side of the façade, and an inset porch supported by full-height brick piers on the right end of the façade.

The Colonial Revival style remained popular well into the 1950s. The c. 1958 Harold Robert Russell House (135 Okeewemee-Star Road) is the best mid-century example of the style with a symmetrical façade with a prominent pediment supported by grouped, two-story columns. The front door has sidelights and a broken swans-neck pediment and the house is impressively sited, set back from the road with a reflecting pond further emphasizing the verticality of the two-story portico. Colonial Revival-style details continued to be adapted to small houses and cottages like the c. 1951 Floyd Owens House (424 South Main Street). The house has grouped double-hung windows, an arched door in a projecting, front-gabled entrance bay with an arched opening, and an uncovered terrace that extends the full width of the façade.

Despite these examples of Colonial Revival-style architecture, by the 1940s and 1950s, Star, like much of the country, had developed a preference for modern design and the Ranch form dominated residential architecture. Designed to emphasize the width of the façade and a general horizontality, the Ranch tended to be long and low, well suited for the wide lots in the yet undeveloped south end of town. The c. 1954 Dr. Tracy E. and Jewel Hussey House (403 South Main Street) is the best example of the style in the district. The side-gable-on-hip-roofed Ranch has a projecting, front-gabled wing on the left end of the façade, a wide interior brick chimney, two-over-two horizontal-pane windows, and a picture window to the right of the entrance. The gable-on-hip-roofed garage is connected to the house via a screened breezeway. Although an office building, the c. 1954 Star Medical Clinic (128 Okeewemee-Star Road) is typical of the Ranches that were built southwest of the district. It has two side-gabled sections defined by an offset roof and separated by a wide interior brick chimney and two-over-two horizontal-pane windows with high windows in the private spaces on the left end of the house. The entrance, in the right section, is sheltered by a two-bay-wide inset porch that is supported by decorative metal posts.

⁵⁴ Bishir, Catherine W. North Carolina Architecture. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1990, pg. 489.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 43

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

Religious architecture in Star tended toward the Colonial Revival style, its symmetrical form, brick veneer, and projecting porticos contributing to the formality of the church. The 1924 Star United Methodist Church (252 South Main Street) has a symmetrical T-plan with a front-gabled sanctuary and an engaged, front-gabled portico supported by full-height brick piers. Arched windows on the side elevations are common features of the style as applied to religious structures. The 1953-1958 Star Presbyterian Church (101 Okeewemee-Star Road) illustrates the continued preference for the style in church construction into the mid-twentieth century. The church is simple in form and detail with a front-gabled brick sanctuary with projecting brick quoins and brick watertable. The front-gabled portico is supported by columns and shelters a double-leaf door and classical surround with fluted pilasters.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 44

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

Section 9: Bibliography

Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railway. www.acwr.com. Accessed 11 December 2012.

Bishir, Catherine W. North Carolina Architecture. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1990.

Bishir, Catherine W. and Michael T. Southern. A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

Currie, Lisa W. and Tom Hicks. Study List application for Star, North Carolina. Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Survey and Planning Branch, 2006.

Harris, Cyril M. American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia. New York: W. W. Norton and Company, 1998.

“Historic Commercial Architectural Styles.” Good for Business, A Guide to Rehabilitating the Exteriors of Older Commercial Buildings. Milwaukee: City of Milwaukee, June 1995.

Huntley, Rosemary King (ed.) The Heritage of Montgomery County, North Carolina, Volume II. Charlotte: Delmar Printing, 1992.

Lassiter, Mable S. Patterns of Timeless Moments: A History of Montgomery County. 1976.

Montgomery County Register of Deeds.

North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. Research and maps compiled regarding North Carolina Railroads.

Phillips, Steven J. Old House Dictionary: An Illustrated Guide to American Domestic Architecture, 1600 to 1940. Washington D. C.: The Preservation Press, 1994.

Richter, Winnie Ingram (ed.) The Heritage of Montgomery County, North Carolina. Winston-Salem: Hunter Publishing Company, 1981.

Star North Carolina website. www.starnc.gov. Accessed 15 April 2013.

Star Small Towns Economic Prosperity (STEP) Program Committee (Angela Bernard, Evelyn Callicutt, Katie Dunlap (Chair), Susan Eggleston (Mayor), Jane Hancock, Tom Hicks, Jerry O’Brien, Marilyn Phillips (Co-Chair), Bobby Russell, Judy Stevens, and Jean Stutts). Personal Interview with author. 7 January 2013.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 45

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

Swaim, Doug: Editor. Carolina Dwelling. The Student Publication of the School of Design: Volume 26.
Raleigh, N.C.: North Carolina State University, 1978.

United States Federal Census Records. 1880-1930.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 46

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

Section 10: Geographical Data

Additional UTM References:

5. 17 / 610455 / 3917520
6. 17 / 610320 / 3917230
7. 17 / 610250 / 3917180
8. 17 / 610060 / 3917180
9. 17 / 610060 / 3917540
10. 17 / 610245 / 3917780
11. 17 / 610295 / 3918020
12. 17 / 610140 / 3918000
13. 17 / 610140 / 3918200

Verbal Boundary Description:

The district boundary is shown by a black line on the accompanying district map at 1:200 scale.

Boundary Justification:

The Star Historic District boundaries were determined according to the density of contributing structures within the area historically associated with the 1896 to 1963 period of active development. Properties to the south, southwest, and southeast of the district were generally constructed after the period of significance. Properties to the east, west, and north generally do not retain sufficient architectural integrity to be included in the district.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 47

Star Historic District
Montgomery County, North Carolina

PHOTOGRAPHS

The following information pertains to all photographs:

Star Historic District

Town, County and State: Star, Montgomery County, North Carolina

Photographer: Heather Wagner

Date: June 2012

Location of master digital images: State Historic Preservation Office, Raleigh, North Carolina

1. Bank of Star, 100-block of North Main Street, facing northeast
2. Star Hotel, 118 North Main Street, facing southwest
3. Freeman Store Building and Bonkemeyer Store Building, 19-121 South Main Street, facing north
4. Dr. John Burney Shamburger House, 134 Owens Street, facing northeast
5. George N. and Lillie L. Scarboro House, 100-block of South Railroad Street, facing northwest
6. Auman House, 437 South Main Street, facing west
7. 100-block of South Main Street, facing southwest
8. 100-block of South Main Street, facing southeast
9. Star Railroad Depot, 102 Depot Street, facing northwest
10. Ernest Morgan House, 315 South Railroad Street, facing west
11. J. B. Simmons House, 101 Harper Street, facing southwest
12. Star Presbyterian Church, 101 Okeewemee-Star Road, facing southwest
13. 400-block of South Main Street, facing southeast
14. 200-block of South Main Street, facing northeast